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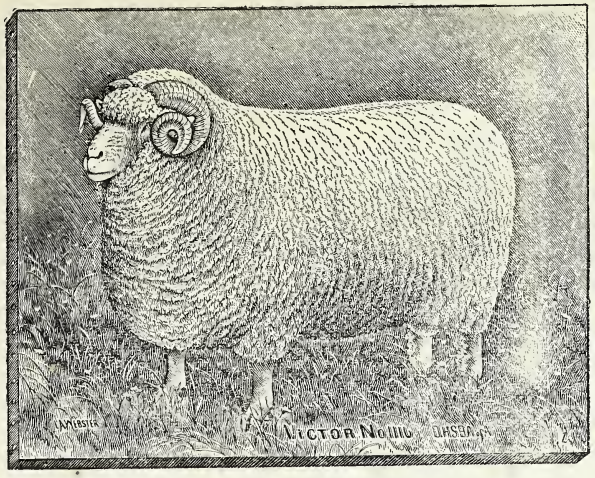

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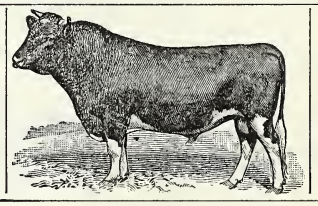

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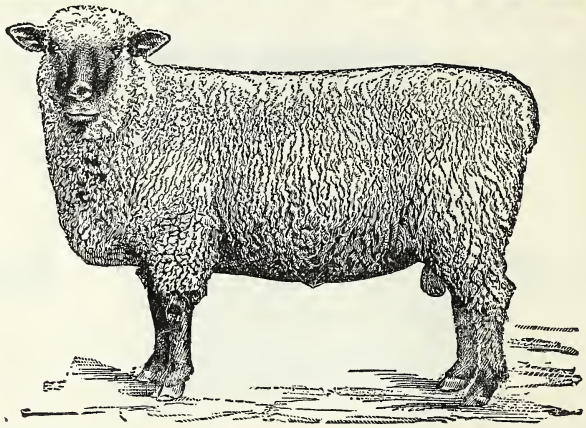

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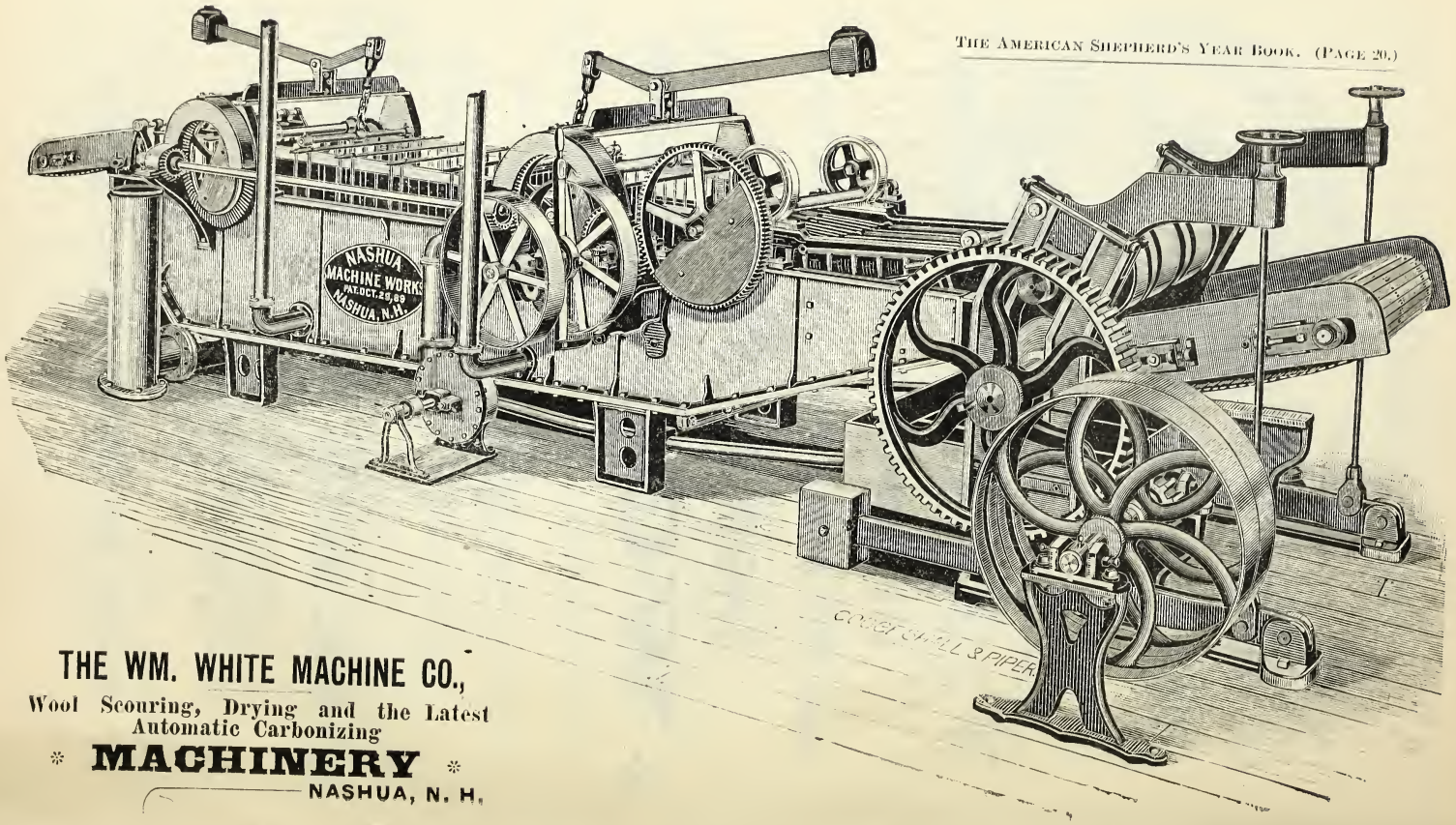

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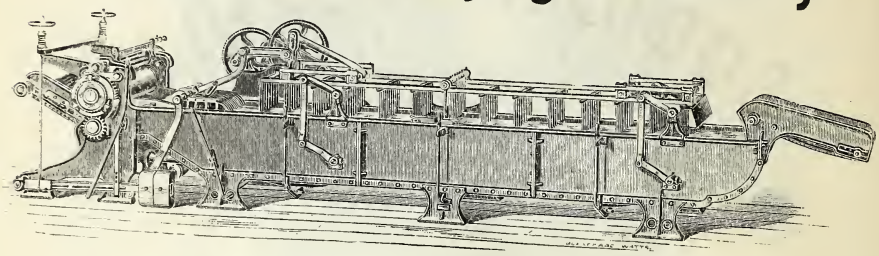

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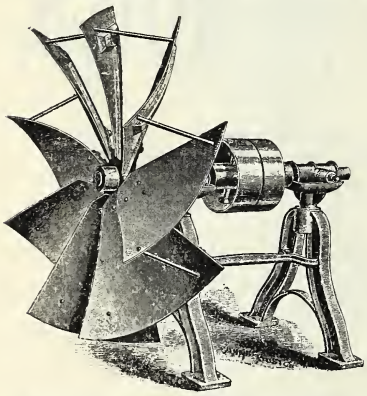

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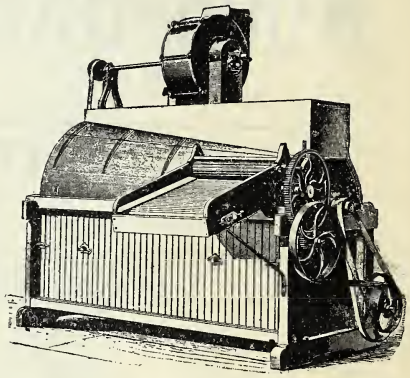

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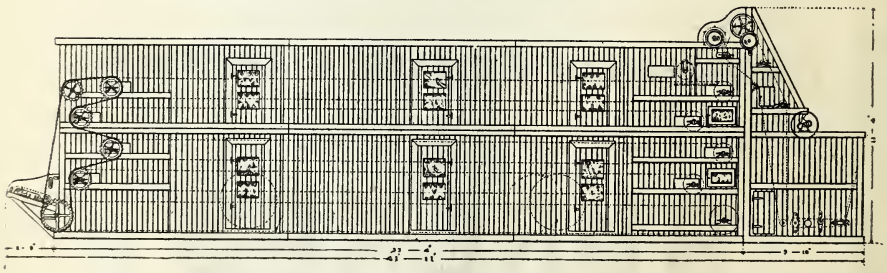

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. . Correspondence Solicited. . .

REPRESENTED BY

S. MARTIN HENRY.

Now in Preparation

FRANK P. BENNETT'S

American Shepherd's Year Book

FOR 1896

As soon as our Year Book for 1895 was completed, we began preparations for 1896, and we ask for suggestions from sheep and wool men everywhere; and especially from breeders who have views which they think should be embodied in this book.

The experience which we have gained in the publication of this book for 1895, will enable us to present a volume for 1896 which is even better than this. . . . . .

FRANK P. BENNETT.

The American Wool and Cotton Reporter,

PRINCIPAL OFFICES:

185 Franklin Street, Boston. 335 Broadway, New York.
241 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Agents and Correspondents in every State of the Union.

[Indexed as Page 30 A.]

NUMBER OF SHEEP IN THE WORLD.

Countries.	No. of Sheep.
North America:	
United States	42,294,064
Dominion of Canada:	
Ontario	1,850,473
Quebec	889,833
New Brunswick	221,163
Nova Scotia	377,801
Manitoba	31,341
Prince Edward Island	166,496
British Columbia	27,788
Northwest Territory	64,920
Total Canada	3,629,815
Newfoundland	40,326
Mexico	2,000,000
Costa Rica	2,775
Guatemala	460,426
Guadeloupe	9,530
Jamaica	14,100
Martinique	18,994
Total North America	51,223,983
South America:	
Argentine Republic	100,000,000
Brazil	500,000
Chili	2,500,000
Colombia	41,696
Guianas: Dutch	369
French	203
Saba	312
Paraguay	62,920
Uruguay	22,989,600
Venezuela	*5,727,500
Falkland Islands	667,344
Curacao and dependencies, exclusive of Saba	51,096
Total South America	135,954,857
Europe—Austria-Hungary:	
Hungary	10,594,831
Austria	3,186,787
Croatia and Slavonia	588,638
Total Austria-Hungary	14,370,256
Belgium	365,400
Bosnia and Herzegovina	839,988
Bulgaria	7,060,300
Denmark	1,225,196
France	21,794,000
Germany	13,775,063
Greece	3,464,954
Italy	6,900,000
Netherlands	771,963
Montenegro	*350,000
Portugal	2,977,454
Roumania	4,567,150
Russia (exclusive of Poland)	45,486,458
Poland	3,754,665
Servia	2,963,904
Spain	13,773,804
Sweden and Norway:	
Norway	1,412,295
Sweden	1,350,804
Switzerland	341,804
United Kingdom:	
Great Britain, including Isle of Man and Channel Islands	28,815,106
Ireland	4,827,702
Total United Kingdom	33,642,808
Malta	10,930
Total Europe	181,831,642

Countries.	No. of Sheep.
Asia:	
British Burmah	*67,484
British India:	
Assam	*199,315
Madras	*12,209,791
Bombay	*3,324,585
Punjab	*6,402,215
Northwest provinces	*4,133,578
Oudh	*1,802,040
Ajmere	*312,870
Berar	*518,837
Coorg	*4,182
Ceylon	87,028
Pargana Manipur	*259
Russia, Asiatic:	
Caucasia	4,544,300
Transcaucasia	5,067,500
Syria	3,831,359
Turkey in Asia:	
Angora	*1,223,699
Bagdad	2,037,431
Bassorah	956,000
Diarbekir	1,053,000
Kastamoonee	*1,061,816
Konich, or Iconium	1,020,000
Mossul	1,211,000
Sivas	2,097,330
Total Turkey in Asia	10,660,276
Other Asia:	
Hongkong, Cypress and French East Indies	235,960
Total Asia	53,401,579
Australasia—Australia:	
New South Wales	61,831,416
Victoria	12,919,428
S. Australia (including N. Terry)	7,745,541
West Australia	1,962,212
Queensland	20,289,633
Total Australia	104,948,230
Tasmania	1,664,118
New Zealand	18,227,186
Fiji Islands	6,072
Total Australasia	124,845,606
Oceanica:	
Tahiti and Moorea	494
Marquesas Islands	4,131
Gambier Islands	205
New Caledonia	7,777
Total Oceanica	12,607
Africa:	
Algeria	9,475,287
Tunis	761,094
Egypt	*1,040,577
Cape of Good Hope	15,124,748
Natal	959,246
Orange Free State	6,619,992
All other	109,884
Total Africa	35,759,935
Recapitulation.	
Grand divisions:	
North America	51,223,983
South America	135,954,857
Europe	181,831,642
Asia	53,401,579
Australasia	124,845,606
Oceanica	12,607
Africa	35,759,935
Grand total	583,030,209

*Necessarily includes goats, because in this country the two kinds of animals are classed together.

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Number of Sheep in the United States.

The full official figures of the number of sheep in the United States on Jan. 1, 1895, and the wool clip for 1894, have been compiled by Mr. Robinson, the statistician of the department of agriculture, and his conscientious assistant, Mr. Phillips. The figures which are furnished by the department of agriculture are obtained from state agents scattered over the country, and also from special agents of the department, who use every means in their power to verify the returns which are furnished by farmers, state officials and statisticians.

The following table gives by states the number of sheep, the average price and the value on

January 1, 1895:

States and Territories.	Number.	Av. Price.	Value.
Maine	284,435	$1.93	$549,670
New Hampshire	106,233	1.97	208,961
Vermont	226,938	1.60	363,464
Massachusetts	49,383	3.43	169,137
Rhode Island	11,279	2.79	31,468
Connecticut	37,934	3.25	123,243
New York	1,096,560	2.27	2,486,449
New Jersey	50,662	3.41	172,849
Pennsylvania	1,178,795	1.95	2,304,309
Delaware	12,873	2.64	33,921
Maryland	138,174	2.62	361,519
Virginia	449,357	2.17	974,027
North Carolina	357,494	1.34	480.472
South Carolina	78,384	1.64	128,863
Georgia	402,946	1.33	537,530
Florida	110,627	1.56	172,357
Alabama	326,640	1.45	474,804
Mississippi	390,904	1.24	484,331
Louisiana	178,745	1.37	244,112
Texas	3,738,117	1.21	4,541,812
Arkansas	212,328	1.36	288,278
Tennessee	493,782	1.55	767,633
West Virginia	685,835	1.79	1,137,734
Kentucky	1,046,788	1.85	1,934,046
Ohio	3,577,419	1.72	6.139,924
Michigan	1,961,946	1.88	3,697,091
Indiana	836,217	1.89	1,581,454
Illinois	857,370	2.04	1,747,895
Wisconsin	895,756	1.65	1,474.414
Minnesota	489,192	1.79	876,241
Iowa	627,930	2.06	1.292,028
Missouri	860,820	1.63	1,401,587
Kansas	274,883	1.67	458,808
Nebraska	183,448	1.85	339,783
South Dakota	323,482	1.65	532,969
North Dakota	367,171	1.68	616,701
Montana	2,808,717	1.51	4,227,400
Wyoming	1,222,538	1.64	2.004,107
Colorado	1,305,989	1.52	1,984,058
New Mexico	3,008,824	.90	2,692,898
Arizona	746,546	1.21	901,081
Utah	2,039,226	1.47	2,998,885
Nevada	544,077	2.42	1,316,667
Idaho	919,865	1.41	1,299,770
Washington	748,857	1.74	1,304,360
Oregon	2,529,759	1.16	2,945,905
California	3,526,341	1.65	5,817,052
Oklahoma	22,778	2.80	63,760
Total	42,294,064	$1.58	$66,685,767

The estimated wool clip for 1894 is 298,057,384 pounds as against 303,000,000 pounds in 1893. The average weight of the fleece, however, continues to increase from year to year, and stands for 1894 at 5.42 pounds as against 5.33 pounds in 1893.

The changes among other farm animals follow pretty generally the range of depressed prices among sheep, and in most cases show diminution of numbers during the past year.

New England seems to be among the losers in number of sheep as well as in average value, but New York and Pennsylvania also show large losses and Texas and Ohio smaller ones in proportion to their total sheep holdings. The western ranges, contrary to first reports, show increases in several cases in the number of sheep over the figures of a year ago. The following table gives the number of sheep, the average price and the value,

January 1, 1894:

States and Territories.	Number.	Av. Price.	Value.
Maine	326,937	$2.05	$671,855
New Hampshire	115,471	2.38	274,821
Vermont	280,170	2.16	604,719
Massachusetts	51,441	3.65	187,760
Rhode Island	11,279	3.65	41,168
Connecticut	39,930	3.46	138,014
New York	1,388,051	2.85	3,962,885
New Jersey	57,571	4.08	235,177
Pennsylvania	1,473,494	3.07	4,530,700
Delaware	12,873	3.18	40,968
Maryland	145,446	3.08	447,843
Virginia	488,432	2.55	1,247,651
North Carolina	376,309	1.49	559,195
South Carolina	78,384	1.58	123,690
Georgia	411,169	1.57	646,687
Florida	112,885	1.79	202,335
Alabama	343,832	1.22	421,057
Mississippi	415,855	1.42	588,435
Louisiana	184,273	1.52	279,634
Texas	3,814,405	1.33	5,075,065
Arkansas	228,310	1.34	307,054
Tennessee	519,770	1.81	939,952
West Virginia	765,705	2.12	1,619,772
Kentucky	1,163,098	2 41	2,797,483
Ohio	3,765,704	2.26	8,506,725
Michigan	2,392,617	2.29	5,469,523
Indiana	972,345	2.39	2,325,454
Illinois	1,032,976	2.37	2,450,632
Wisconsin	1,066,376	2.16	2,304,225
Minnesota	514,939	2.19	1,128,129
Iowa	775,222	2.59	2,004,724
Missouri	1,000,953	1.91	1,914,023
Kansas	323,392	1.97	635,789
Nebraska	277,952	2.31	643,014
South Dakota	336,960	2.25	759,642
North Dakota	370,880	2.03	754,073
Montana	2,780,908	1.76	4.891,895
Wyoming	1,198,567	2.17	2,606.284
Colorado	1,293,058	1.85	2.396,295
New Mexico	2.921,188	1.26	3,689,169
Arizona	691,246	1.75	1.209,681
Utah	1,905,819	1.63	3,098,480
Nevada	544,077	2.14	1,164,162
Idaho	779,547	2.25	1.753,981
Washington	832,063	2.39	1,989,796
Oregon	2,529,759	1.75	4,433,403
California	3,918,157	1.81	7,074,625
Oklahoma	18,222	2.10	38,266
Total	45,048,017	$1.98	$89,186,110

The average price of sheep shows the effect of the general price depression of the past year, and falls from $1.98 to $1.58, pulling down the aggregate value of the sheep in the United States from $89,186,110 to $66,685,767.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

CHAPTER I.

This is the first number of a proposed annual publication from the office of the AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER, and is presented with the apologies which must frequently be made for a new publication. The experience which we have gained, however, in preparing this book for 1895, will enable us to do far better work in this direction in 1896 and subsequent years.

The recent heavy slaughter of sheep in the United States has not been accompanied by an increase of flocks in other sections of the world. In fact, the number of sheep in most other countries has diminished to an extent which ensures better values for both sheep and wool in the near future. As an illustration we give the following returns from four leading wool-growing sections:

AUSTRALASIA.

	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
Victoria	13,098,725	12,970,000	12,965,306	12,928,428	12,736,143
New South Wales	56,980,688	56,200,000	55,445,289	61,831,416	55,986,431
Queensland	18,697,015	21,700,000	21,708,310	20,289,633	18,007,234
South Australia	7,335,194	7,250,000	7,152,047	7,745,541	7,050,544
West Australia	2,220,642	1,680,000	1,685,500	1,962,212	2,524,913
Tasmania	1,535,047	1,620,000	1,623,338	1,664,118	1,619,256
New Zealand	18,570,752	19,350,000	18,570,752	17,865,423	16,196,048
Total	118,438,063	120,770,000	119,150,542	124,286,771	114,120,569

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The government returns of live sheep in United Kingdom on June 4, last, show the following division:

England	15,509,995	Isle of Man, etc.	71,068
Wales	3,078,641		
Scotland	7,272,864	Total	30,037,818
Ireland	4,105,250		

against 31,774,824 a year ago, a decrease of 1,737,006.

The number of breeding ewes in Great Britain is 9,668,002, against 10,128,676 in 1893; decrease, 460,674 head.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

From the Argentine Republic, our figures have been delayed for the reason that the government reports are not out yet for last year. But the latest returns we have thus far obtained show the following comparisons with previous years:

	No. of Sheep.		No. of Sheep.		No. of Sheep.		No. of Sheep
1892	100,000,000	1885	120,578,023	1882	104,252,680	1880	91,582,206
1887	103,413,817	1884	107,384,540	1881	98,380,474	1879	86,505,596
1886	124,087,767	1883	111,196,488				

Until and including 1887, the number of sheep in the Argentine Republic had been steadily increasing for many years. But since 1886 the government statistics obtainable show a falling off.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Cape Colony live stock returns, end of May, 1894, showed a heavy decrease in number of sheep compared with a year previous:

	1893.	1894.		1893.	1894.
Merino sheep	11,423,746	10,421,753	Lambs	not given	2,926,192
Cape, do	2,140,253	1,776,803	Angora goats	2,811,206	2,561,708

The present low prices of wool, and the uncertainty as to the future, have caused a great slaughter of sheep and diminution of flocks, especially where wool was made the principal consideration. Of course the marketing of so many sheep has affected the mutton breeds by lowering the price

of mutton. But the most intelligent breeders are everywhere confident that the large surplus of all breeds thus disposed of will make the future call for mutton sheep more regular and prices higher. Moreover, the change from wool growing to mutton producing, will make a large and increasing demand for Shropshires, Rambouillet Merinos, Hampshires, Oxfords and Southdowns, for introducing their mutton qualities into flocks now bred solely for wool.

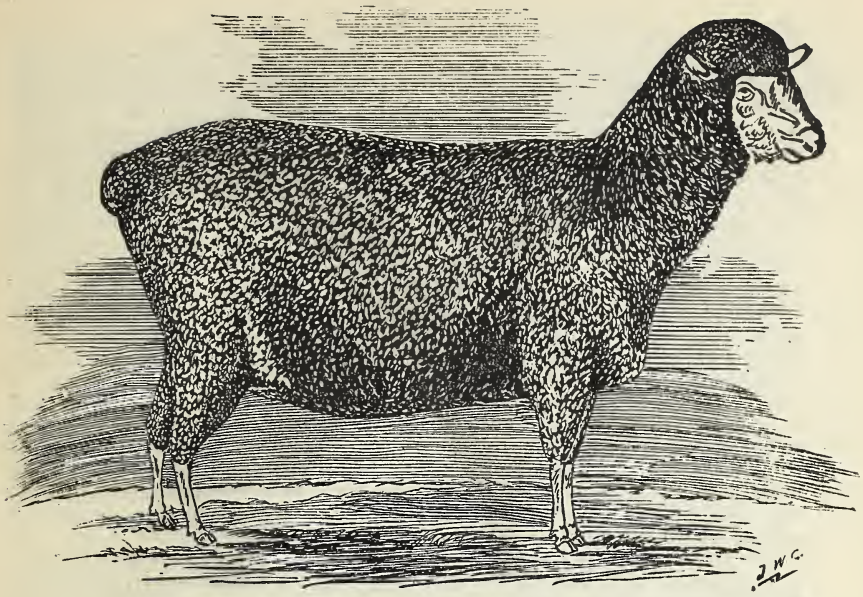
CHAPTER II.

THE AMERICAN MERINO.

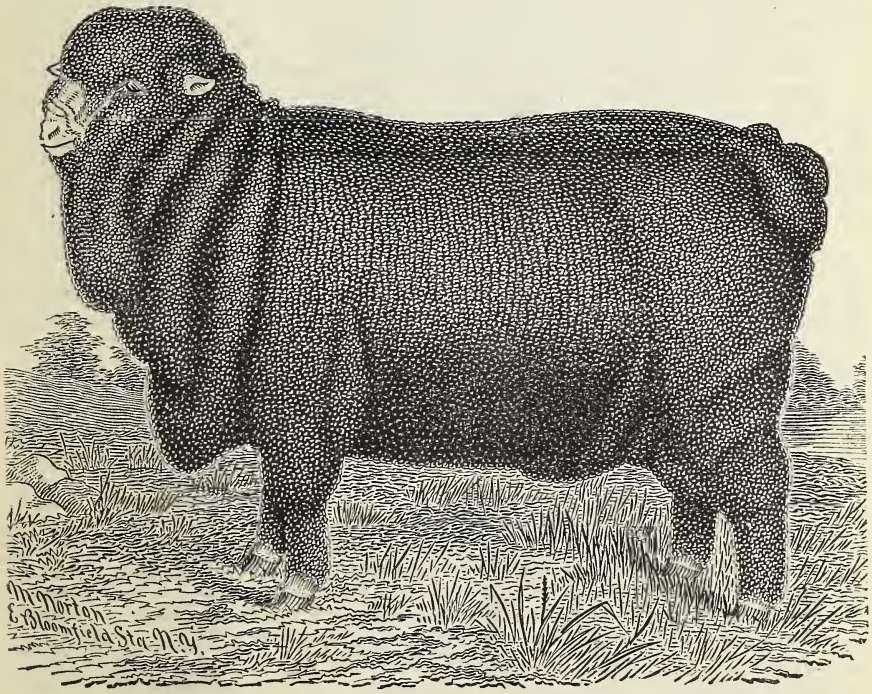
As the merino is the leading type of sheep in America to-day, and as the fine wool which it produces constitutes the bulk of the material consumed by the manufacturers of woollen cloths in the United States, we will first consider the salient features of this popular breed found roaming, not only over the wide pastoral areas of Texas, but on the ranches of the vast states and territories of the great Far West, and in much smaller numbers in its primitive American home, the less limited areas of the Middle wool-producing States and the sheep-folds of Vermont and Maine. Let us speak more particularly of the Spanish merino.

The Spanish merino, originally imported into this country, was quite different from the American merino of to-day. Unquestionably, there is no variety of this sheep in the world which surpasses it. First imported into this country, from the sunny slopes of Spain, more than ninety years ago, it has, under the watchful eye and constant care of the American husbandman, been moulded, like unto a plastic clay in the hands of the potter, until it would seem as though the *beau idéal* of this popular breed had now been reached. That the rapid strides which have been accomplished in the direction of improvement may be more obvious, let us briefly review the merino's early history in America and its original condition.

In examining the archives which record the first importation of merino sheep into the United States, the first authentic date we have is 1798. It was in that year that Hon. Wm. Porter, of Boston, presented to Mr. Andrew Craigie, of Cambridge, Mass., two ewes and a ram brought over on the ship "Bald Eagle." Then in 1801 a French banker, Delessert by name, imported four ram tegs from France, three of which died on the voyage. It was in this year that Mr. Adams, of Zanesville, Ohio, imported from France a pair of merinos. Next came the importation by Chancellor Livingston, American Minister to France, in 1802, who sent four purchased from the government flock at Chalons. Soon after he sent over a ram from the famous flock at Rambouillet. At Clermont, the home of Chancellor Livingston, in 1809 was held a shearing, and there was, on this occasion, a ram 14 months old, named "Clermont," which clipped a fleece of 9 pounds and 6 ounces; live weight, 126 pounds. This is the first public shearing, of which we have a record, that was held in the United States. The weight of the rams imported at about this time ranged from 100 to 130 pounds, and their fleeces from 5 to 10 pounds of unwashed wool. The ewes averaged from 50 to 55 pounds each, and yielded unwashed fleeces averaging from 4 to 6 pounds. The grade or common ewes, often termed natives, averaged, about this time, from 3 to 4½ pounds; ½-bloods, the result of one cross with the merino, about 5 pounds; and ¾-blood, second cross, from 5½ to 7½ pounds,—thus showing the steady gain in weight as the blood of the merino became infused into the flocks. It is recorded that the price for ½-blood wool was 75 cents, for ¾-blood $1.25, and for ⅞ $1.50, and for pure merino $2 per pound.



Infantado Ewe of the beginning of the present century, described in the accompanying pages.



Modern Merino Ewe, showing what has been accomplisned by selection and breeding, as described in the accompanying pages.

The Massachusetts Agricultural Society offered in 1802 a premium of $50 for the importation of a pair of sheep of superior breed. Colonel David Humphreys, Minister to the Court of Spain, contracted with a party to deliver to him, at Lisbon, 25 rams and 75 ewes, from one to two years old, which were driven across the country of Portugal by three Spanish shepherds, escorted by a small guard of Portuguese soldiers. After fifty days' voyage they were landed at Derby, Conn., being transferred at New York to a small sloop. The severity of the voyage had by this time reduced the number to 21 rams and 70 ewes. For this importation Colonel Humphreys received a gold medal from the Massachusetts Society. Both Colonel Humphreys and Chancellor Livingston were large purchasers from the Duke of Infantado's flock. The Duke of Infantado had 40,000 sheep, and there is evidence that over 2,000 of them were purchased and brought to the United States in 1810 and 1811.

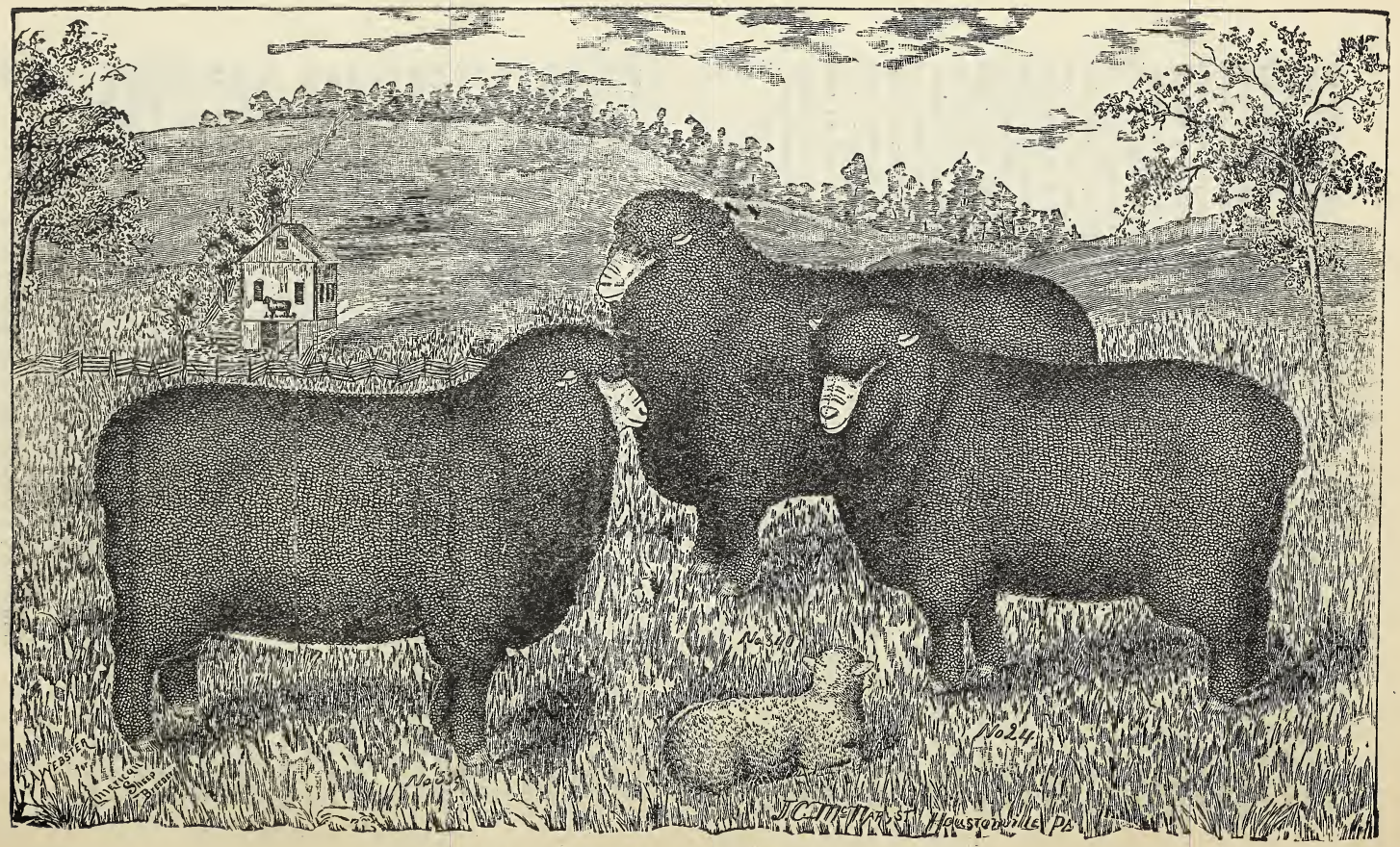
Upon page 35 of this pamphlet is presented a picture of one of the Infantado merino ewes of the beginning of the present century. Upon the same page is presented a modern merino ewe, showing what has been accomplished by selection and breeding. The average merino to-day shears more than twice as great a percentage of fleece to live weight as did the very best specimens of which we have any account at the beginning of the present century.

Our merino sheep have also increased materially in size since their first importation from Spain. Our rams weigh at least one-fourth more than the old Spanish rams did seventy-five years ago.

Moreover, the great improvements which have been made in the weight of fleeces, the beauty of form, and the size and strength of the merino sheep, have not been at the sacrifice of quality of wool. In a work published in the early part of the present century a leading writer says: "All the wools of Spain that I have examined — not excepting the prime Leonese, the most esteemed of any — appear to me to contain much more jar than that of Rambouillet. Everything seems to evince that we shall soon totally banish this hard, intractable hair, so hurtful to the manufacturer, from our fleeces."

In an early work on this subject, the number of fibres that were many years since found grown on an inch of surface of merino sheep was given as 40,000 to 48,000. A year or two ago some Vermont breeders of an investigating spirit killed a healthy, thrifty animal with a fine compact fleece, and, before the pelt had time to dry and shrink in the least, an inch square was carefully cut from the shoulder. A microscopic examination showed 222,300 fibres.

It seems to have fallen upon the farmers among the green hills of Vermont to develop the merino from these early dates onward. The herbage of her hills, the health-giving air and water, the near proximity of mountains, and, above all, her clay soil, seemed admirably adapted for the highest development of this grade of sheep. The western portion of the State, particularly among the clay hillsides of Addison and Rutland Counties, was where they were clustered the thickest, and where good care, feed, and management brought them rapidly out of their comparatively low standard. As originally imported from Spain, these sheep were rather ungainly in shape. The legs and faces were bare of wool, horns scraggy, fleeces open; *i.e.*, lacking in density and shearing light fleeces. In 1850 the average weight of fleece of the sheep of Vermont was 3 pounds, 5½ ounces; of the United States, 2 pounds, 6¾ ounces. The largest increase of the average weight of fleeces in Vermont appears to be between 1850 and 1870, and is regarded as a strong argument in favor of the cultivation of the heavy shearing, greasy merinos, which are the animals which have raised the American shearing standard to its present position. In 1860 the fleeces of the sheep of Vermont had increased to 4 pounds, 2½ ounces, as is chronicled in the records of the Vermont Merino Sheep Breeders' Association, and the average fleece of the United States to 2 pounds, 10⅞ ounces.



A GROUP OF NATIONAL DELAINE MERINO EWES,
Bred by the Association of Sheep Men in Washington County, Pa.

DISPERSION OF THE MERINO.

With the opening of the Rebellion came an active request for all the products of the farm and factory, and a consequent stimulation of sheep-breeding throughout the country at once occurred. Many were the carloads of thoroughbred merinos, from the best of Vermont flocks, that were pulled westward into the States of Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and other wool-growing sections, and dispersed for the improvement of grade flocks. The desirability of crossing on this class of sheep was at once seen; and during 1877 there were shipped from one station alone in Vermont 29½ carloads, averaging over 100 head in each.

On March 23, 1876, the Vermont Merino Sheep Breeders' Association was formed, the object being to preserve the purity of the Spanish merino race of sheep, and to encourage further improvement. The success of this association led to the formation of those of a like character in other States, and the good work they have done is everywhere evident.

During the years following 1877 more sheep found their way into States farther west; and the ranges of Montana, Wyoming, Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, and other range sections absorbed not only Vermont's small surplus, but that of Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and less important States. The merino is a noble sheep. Outnumbering many times all other breeds, it certainly deserves the primary consideration we have accorded it. It is interesting to note that in 1850 the heaviest shearing stock rams cut a fleece of only about 18 pounds; while at the present day rams shearing 30, 35, 40, and even 45 pounds, are not infrequent, and there are many ewes that will shear 16, 18, 20, and occasionally 25 pounds. Great evenness and density of fleece have also been attained. Quite a number of rams' fleeces have yielded over 9 pounds of scoured wool each, and ewes' over 7.

CHAPTER III.

THE DELAINE MERINO.

Previous to 1868 the merino sheep had yielded exclusively what are known as clothing wools, which are carded instead of being combed. But in the year just named the enterprise of an eminent manufacturer, Mr. E. R. Mudge, of Boston, Mass., now deceased, resulted in planting in this country a branch of textile industry until then unknown; namely, that of combing, spinning, and weaving into fine worsted goods the longer selections of fine merino wools under the name of delaine. This new process of combing instead of carding is one in which the fibres, or strands, of wool are laid parallel with each other and spun out the full length in yarn, thus getting all the strength of the fibre. It is thereby susceptible of being made the finest as well as the strongest and most durable of all fabrics of wool production. The goods known as "diagonals," or some patterns of worsted cloth, have become more popular than any other fabric for use for men's wear. The popularity of this class of fabrics soon developed a breed of sheep especially calculated to produce delaine wools.

The Delaine Merino has become a new family, formed by a cross of the Spanish and Black Top Merino families. It is larger than the Spanish or Vermont merino, is smooth-bodied, well formed, compactly built, possesses a vigorous constitution, and has a mutton carcass such as in the early days of sheep-breeding would not have been accepted in fine wool sheep. The fleece is dense, fine, and clean white, and of a length of about three inches at one year's growth. A weight of 150 pounds for rams and 100 pounds for ewes is claimed at maturity. These sheep are largely domiciled in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and in the neighboring counties of Ohio and West Virginia. We present, on page 37, an excellent cut of a group of Delaine Merino ewes, bred and owned by one of the

best known Washington County breeders. Sheepmen in Washington County, Pennsylvania, who had been breeders of Vermont merinos for half a century, have turned their attention within the past twenty years to the more vigorous and larger sheep known as Delaine Merinos with great success. By a comparison of the sheep on page 37 with the modern merino ewe shown on page 35 the reader will note the absence of wrinkles and the smoother character of the fleece of the delaine merino.

Concerning these sheep we have just received the following letter. The samples of wool sent with the letter were beautiful fine delaine staple, measuring over five inches in length: —

Editor of the American Shepherd's Year Book:

Yours of the 2d inst. received. Will send you electrotype by express. Also enclose you a few samples of wool at one year's growth from ewes and rams of different ages. Will state that I have three hundred head of thoroughbred delaines that will average 10 pounds merchantable wool. You can see from the cut the make-up of the sheep. Have had a good Western trade, and sell from 40 to 60 rams each season. Have on hand now 65 choice rams, yearlings, and two-year-olds for the trade this fall. Stock recorded in Vols. 1 and 4 National Delaine Merino Register. The delaines can be easier handled than most other fine-woolled breeds, being free from wrinkles and with only a sufficient amount of grease to keep the fleece in a bright and healthful condition. Rams weigh at maturity from 150 to 180 pounds, and a chance one will weigh as high as 200 pounds. Ewes will weigh at maturity from 110 to 140 pounds. Rams shear from 14 to 20 and 22 pounds. Ewes shear from 8 to 14 pounds, the quality of wool you find enclosed.

I write you these few points to show what we consider the *all-purpose* sheep, with plenty of wool on a good mutton carcass.

In this part of the State, as well as all through the Ohio Valley, the smooth-bodied delaines have been taking the lead over the *wrinklers*, as breeders can keep more of them together to a better advantage than the *oily ones*, *Spanish breeds*, or of the coarser mutton breeds.

CHAPTER IV.

THE SOUTHDOWN: ITS ORIGIN AND ADAPTATION TO AMERICA.

The improved sheep of modern times may be divided into three classes; namely, the fine-wool sheep, the middle-wool sheep, and the coarse-wool sheep. The merino, or fine-wool type of sheep, has already been described. The limits of the present pamphlet are too brief to admit of a description of all the varieties of middle-wool sheep. We will consequently devote the largest share of attention in this class to the Southdowns.

There is a growing demand in America for mutton and mutton sheep. The feeling of depression that existed in wool-growing circles until within the past six months, particularly among breeders whose sole aim in flock management was to keep sheep simply for the wool they produced, has, without question, led to a more general appreciation of the mutton breeds and a recognition that a small flock of such sheep can be kept with profit, however discouraging the wool prospect may appear.

This consideration of affairs has been brought home with far more force to the sheep raisers in the Eastern and Middle States than in Western ranges. It has received far more recognition from breeders owning high-priced lands on which higher forms of agriculture must be pursued than the production of wool alone, in order to insure a profit. The great value

of sheep to the land is, of course, unquestioned; but these mutton breeds pay for themselves at the butchers, leaving the wool and the benefit to the land for net profit. Certainly, the coupling of mutton production with wool-growing should never be overlooked in discussing the question of fair remuneration in sheep husbandry.

The number and importance of the British breeds of sheep cannot fail to attract the attention of all who give any thought to the matter. If we will but think for a moment, we shall indeed be surprised to find that an island of so small an area should contain so many distinct breeds of any domestic animal. The English sheep farmer has taken much pride in his pursuit, and given it his best intelligence. In his nearness to markets, he has been always fortunate. His high-priced lands have allowed of his keeping nothing but a general-purpose sheep, and it has naturally enough been left to him to develop the mutton breeds to a condition nearer perfection than has ever been attained by breeders in any other country; while, on the other hand, it is the flockmaster of the United States into whose hands has been thrown the destiny of the range sheep, the merino. In his pursuit, the English sheep farmer has been very successful; and the cities and towns of the kingdom, containing many of the greatest workshops in the world, have consumed his very palatable mutton.

Among the foremost breeds of mutton sheep stand the Southdowns, tersely and accurately described on the Leicester monument, at Holkham, England, as "small in size, but great in value." It is upon the chalk lands of England's southern counties, the ridge of lands lying south of London, called the Southdowns, that we find the primitive home of the Southdown sheep,—the downs of Sussex; and it is upon these pastoral areas they have fed and been known since the days of William the Conqueror.

The original Southdown was small in size, long and thin in the neck, high on the shoulders, high on the loins, low behind down on the rumps. The ribs were flat, the fore-quarters were narrow, but the legs were good, still the bone was quite large. The fleece was also light, and it was not considered that the sheep had arrived at maturity for fattening until it was three years old. It appears that the improvement began at about the period of the war between Great Britain and America, the recognized superiority of the wool greatly stimulating the improvement. A Southdown fleece was then considered as fine wool, bringing a high price and generally utilized for carding purposes. Since the popular merino became better known, and as fine wool from this breed continued to grow in favor, the Southdown has been classed with the middle-wool type of sheep.

There have been exhibited at the Fat Stock Show, in London, specimens of wethers from this breed that have weighed from 250 to 260 pounds each; but of course sheep of such large size do not produce so fine a textured flesh. They are inclined to be coarse and thin, mutton is not so tender and savory as that of the smaller-sized animals, weighing, say 100 to 175 pounds alive, when well fattened. Beyond these latter weights the breeders of the United States are advised not to venture; for, if the size be increased too much, they are not apt to thrive well, for they are fitted to rough pastures and short herbage. Successful breeders always aim to secure uniformity of character in their flocks, and it is then that the ewes shall look as near alike as two peas.

It is said that Southdown mutton commands a higher price than any other English sort. The breed is certainly one of the oldest and purest of the mutton classes, and is unquestionably unexcelled. There is strong rivalry between this and other breeds, but it has lost none of its popularity. Its docility and beauty have always made it a particular favorite with the rich, while its excellent feeding qualities have won for it much endearment among all who are acquainted with it. Besides the superior quality of its flesh, there is an added merit in its composition, being largely composed of lean meat, the fat being well distributed throughout, not unlike that of a well-fed shorthorn.

GROUP OF PURE BRED SOUTHDOWNS.

The illustration which accompanies this article represents a group of Southdowns bred and owned by one of the leading growers of this very popular breed of sheep. They are registered in the American Southdown Record, and are as handsome specimens of the breed as one often sees. The animal which stands on the higher ground in the picture is a ram of no mean merit. The handsome contour of his body certainly suggests his value as a sire, and that his progeny will rank high for the excellence of their mutton and wool.

A well-known authority in sheep has thought it quite probable that the original Southdown breed was horned, for the reason that during his day it was not unusual to find among the buck lambs specimens with small horns. The dark hue of head and legs of these sheep, he believed, not only proved the original color, which he holds was black, but the much later period when it was attempted to get rid of this dingy color. There are also others who believe that, if the breed were to relapse into a wild state, it would become black.

Last season our American breeders of English sheep secured some valuable types of the Southdown breed. In August of this year, which is the date at which the public sales occur in England, it is expected that other large purchases will be made for this country. While mutton prices have not been high this season, there has been enough discrimination in favor of the best to vindicate the policy of catering to the requests of those who are willing to pay for a good thing. Considered from a point of healthfulness, mutton is without a peer. Besides, it is cheaper than either beef or pork. Let us cultivate the English breeds of sheep, cultivate a taste for mutton, and we shall grow healthier, wealthier, and wiser.

CHAPTER V.

SOME MISCELLANEOUS MIDDLE-WOOL TYPES OF SHEEP.

LESLIE, N.Y., April 18, 1892.

Editor of the American Shepherd's Year Book:

I have about 150 high-bred merino ewes. With what breed should I cross them to produce a good quality of combing or delaine wool? Will you have the kindness to answer through the REPORTER, and benefit many wool-growers? I, for one, have got tired of growing wool at 25 cents per pound, if I can do better. Very respectfully,

GEO. N. BROWN.

[Our reply to Mr. Brown will be found in the editorial below entitled "To Reclaim New England Farms."—ED.]

TO RECLAIM NEW ENGLAND FARMS.

We are very glad to answer the questions propounded by Mr. Brown, of Leslie, N.Y., since THE REPORTER has never favored the excessive partiality for thoroughbred merinos which prevails among many American flockmasters. If Mr. Brown's merinos are of large size, we would recommend him to cross them with large Hampshire or Shropshire bucks and the result will be a crossbred sheep which will yield a very excellent and useful combing wool. If his sheep are small merinos, the cross with the large Hampshire or Shropshire bucks would be too severe, and the ewes would have hardly milk enough for the lambs. In this case, he should make the first cross with the smaller Southdown rams; and he may then cross the first generation with the Hampshire or Shropshire bucks to secure the desired wools, combined with an excellent carcass for mutton purposes. We prefer the Hampshires, Shropshires, and Southdowns to the Oxfords, as

the fleeces of the last-named are looser and less adapted to withstand the inclemency of the weather.

The Southdown is a hardy little animal, with a tight fleece, which enables it to live out of doors the year round, and with a constitution which enables it to keep fat on next to nothing. The Hampshire Down possesses many of the same characteristics, with a heavier carcass. Mr. Brown can make money by turning his attention to this class of sheep.

Just now a good deal is being said in the newspapers and in the legislatures about the abandoned farms of New England. The man who can't take one of these deserted farms, with a little capital and a moderate degree of business sense, and make it pay 10 per cent. net by the judicious application of sheep husbandry would be an exception. Mr. E. F. Bowditch, the celebrated stock farmer of Framingham, Mass., once gave us an instance of his purchase of a worn out pasture of 44 acres, which had previously supported 7 cows with difficulty. He kept 350 sheep on this pasture for 5 years; and it now supports 21 cows where the 7 lean kine previously dragged out a precarious and unsatisfactory existence.

To produce a delaine wool, we would recommend that this party of merino ewes be crossed with a Black Top, or delaine, merino ram, such as is bred in the counties of Washington, Greene, and Alleghany in Pennsylvania and in Eastern Ohio. Such wools as these sheep produce sell for 20 @ 22 cents, washed, in Boston to-day. Besides, the delaines have been bred large, and make excellent mutton.

DORSET HORNED SHEEP.

53 & 55 JOHN ST., NEW YORK, May 21, 1892.

Editor of the American Shepherd's Year Book:

I have been informed that the "Dorset Horned" breed of sheep are very prolific, and pay well when raised for mutton. Can you give me any information concerning them? Yours truly,

S. M. COLGATE.

[The Dorset Horns are a breed but recently introduced into this country, and as yet are only being experimented with. Thus far they are very well liked. The ewes are excellent mothers, and are very productive, raising two lambs each, and occasionally three. In England they are bred almost exclusively for the raising of lambs for the Christmas market. Lambs at 60 days old often weigh from 50 to 60 pounds. At six months they will weigh from 100 to 125 pounds. Mr. M. M. Small, of Cooperstown, Pa., reports a ewe imported from England, now about six years old, who in less than sixteen months produced nine living sheep and one dead lamb. Another valuable feature of this breed is that they will not run when pursued by dogs, but get together and assume the offensive; and the dogs stand a poor show. The leading breeder of Dorsets in New England has been E. F. Bowditch, of Framingham, Mass., but since his death his son has turned his attention to other breeds.—Ed.]

SHEEP-RAISING IN WEST VIRGINIA.

NEW YORK, May 8, 1892.

Editor of the American Shepherd's Year Book:

I am contemplating the raising of sheep in West Virginia. Will you please send me the names of wool-raisers in West Virginia who raise merino sheep? Any pamphlets which you may know of on the raising of sheep in West Virginia, and what kind it is best to keep at present, whether a wool or mutton sheep, I shall be glad to receive. Awaiting your reply, I remain, Yours truly, S. M.

[The most popular breed of merino or fine-wool sheep in Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio to-day, is the delaine type.

Recent attempts at sheep breeding in the eastern wool-growing sections of the United States have demonstrated that we must breed a sheep suited for mutton as well as wool, and the delaine type seems to be a golden mean between the two extremes of the strictly mutton breed and the wrinkly, greasy merino, suited only for wool.

The demand for a Merino sheep suitable for mutton purposes is also calling renewed attention to the American Rambouillet Merinos. A complete history of these sheep from their origin at the government experimental farm at Rambouillet, France, in 1786, to the present date, has been published by the American Rambouillet Association, of which Mr. Henry Grinnell of Franklin, Mich., is president. Mr. Frank P. Bennett has a small flock of these American Rambouillets upon his farm at Freedom, Me., and seven ewes had nine lambs in October, 1894. They make the best mothers of any sheep Mr. Bennett has owned. These sheep have long been noted as a mutton sheep, their fine juicy flesh having no superior, and they are noted for early maturity, quick feeding properties and fine juicy flesh.

The rams are usually well horned, but not always, and weigh at maturity from 175 to 250 pounds. The ewes weigh 110 to 150 pounds. Wethers attain 150 to 200 pounds. They will bear herding in large flocks, and their great hardiness permits them to stand all kinds of weather without housing. Their fullness of carcass, brightness of look, length of body, vigor of carriage and great strength, make them excellent and reliable re-producers, and quick, healthy feeders on the range. Rambouillet wool is of the finest quality, has a beautiful crimp, is usually white, sometimes of a buff color, very compact, opens in large layers, has just yolk enough to promote a rapid and vigorous growth, shows no crust formation, seldom any jar hairs, and is always noted for its length, strength and elasticity. It is from three to five inches in length, often six and one-half inches for one year's growth. Rambouillet sheep should be well wooled to the feet and to the nose. Rams shear annually from 12 to 24 pounds; ewes from 6 to 10 pounds. The wool scours from 50 to 55 per cent for the manufacturer, and no other Merino wool shows a deeper staple.—ED.]

CHAPTER VI.

THE COTSWOLD.

While the various British breeds of sheep, the Shropshires, the Leicesters, the Oxfords, the Lincolns, the Hampshires, and others, all have their friends and fervent admirers, there are none of these famous mutton breeds that are so justly entitled to "claims of long descent" and none which have borne a more important part in the improvement of favorite English breeds, than the Cotswold.

By referring to the famous writers of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, such as Markham, Drayton, Camden, Stowe, and others, there is a repleteness of evidence of the early celebrity of this ancient sheep. In fact, allusions in those days were so distinct that there is no mistaking their meaning,—that exceptional preference was early accorded the Cotswold. Historians and poets alike bestowed high praise, pronouncing the Cotswold

wool as "most fine and soft," as "held in passing great account among nations," of "abundant fleece" and "wealthy flocks." As a proof of its antiquity, there are records that in 1437 Cotswold wool was imported to Spain, and in 1468 Cotswold rams were shipped to that sunny southern land as presents from English to Spanish monarchs. Let us go still further back in the early ages.

We know that the history of the meek and lowly sheep antedates that of all other domestic animals, and is really coeval with that of man. Abel, the illustrious son of Adam and Eve, was engaged in the sheep business; and, as the history of the Cotswold extends further back upon the pages of history than other breeds, we cannot but believe his flock must have been of Cotswolds or merinos, and that Cain, utterly discouraged in following the vocation of tilling the soil, became envious of his brother as he whistled along over the heaths with his sheep, and wool going up every day, and sought to slay him. Be that as it may, we find that in the twelfth century the Cotswold was introduced into England from Spain by Eleanor, Queen of Henry II. of England; and it is a well-authenticated fact that there existed in Spain, as early as A.D. 41, a breed of coarse, long-wool sheep.

The home of the Cotswold sheep is found in that area of low, calcareous hills in the eastern portion of the county of Gloucester, England, a tract formerly bleak wastes, used for sheep pastures. Here they were subject to bleak winds on the rich herbage always produced by limestone soil, it being the practice of the shepherds to graze them here, and fatten them in the protected valleys of Gloucestershire. Gloucester County is in southwestern England, and is drained by the Severn River, as it nears the Bristol Channel. The country has three natural divisions, the hill, the vale, and the forest, nearly parallel. This hilly country consists entirely of the Cotswolds, which extend the entire length, at about an average elevation of 600 feet, sometimes rising to 1,200 feet above the level of the sea, and embracing an area of nearly 300,000 acres of rolling tableland. The valleys are extremely fertile, and these extend from the base of the Cotswolds to the east bank of the Severn.

The leading characteristics of the modern Cotswold are its remarkable combination of massive proportions of frame and its constitution, capable of enduring much hardship and exposure and appearing perfectly cosmopolitan on all sorts of soils. In the northern latitudes of the United States the Cotswold turned out in the yards among the cattle and allowed to shift for itself thrives where the merino, under similar conditions, would perish. Thus the Cotswold, from the bleak exposed Cotswold hills of Britain, displays in its constitution the results of environment. They are well adapted to grazing on short pastures, and are really the largest sheep in the world, standing high, with long, broad backs, overhanging rumps, and full-set fleeces. Generally they have white faces and legs; but occasionally we find them mottled, and sometimes gray in color. The Cotswold frame is large, lengthy, and wide, the ribs are well sprung, level back and good legs of mutton. The neck is quite long and arched, the eyes are prominent, the crown of the head well woolled, the rams often carrying locks which hang down over their eyes.

The principal objection to the Cotswold's mutton is the disproportion of fat and lean, there being too much of the former. There should of course be a proper intermingling, in order to have an attractively marbled flesh. Improved methods of feeding, however, will greatly improve this defect; for, where a judicious method of fattening has been pursued, an amelioration of the trouble is noticeable.

The fleece of the Cotswold is renowned for great length of staple but not for excessive weight, and yet hogget fleeces exceed 14 pounds. Sometimes, however, a good average clip of a ewe is about 9 pounds. This wool grades from medium to coarse, the bulk being coarse combing, quoted on the Boston market to-day at 17 cents per pound, 5 cents higher than Ohio

fine unwashed and about the same as washed merino. This coarse combing wool has been fairly active in our wool markets for some months, and even at 16 to 17 cents is well taken. The bulk of this ¼-blood comes from Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri, Illinois and Maine, and most of it has been bought at so high a figure that, with the market at its present status, it cannot be sold at a good profit. Shearlings shear, not infrequently, 15 and 16 pounds, and phenomenal fleeces of older rams have weighed 21½ pounds. Cotswold flocks, ewes and rams, average generally from 10 to 11 pounds.

The weight of Cotswolds at one year old generally ranges from 140 to 150 pounds, and lambs dropped in February and coupled will generally drop a lamb the next year in May. But, of course, such early breeding is hardly to be recommended, as it seriously interferes with proper development. The fleeces of this breed are inclined to be quite open, while some have coarser fibres than others. The open fleece is considered an objection by some, as it is held that during storms they become more thoroughly wet than closer-fleeced breeds.

If one will take the trouble to experiment with the Cotswold, they will find them an excellent breed for crossing on common or grade sheep. Possessed of stout, straight legs and other excellent points, the first cross produces valuable results, hardly to be obtained so early from using other breeds. Standing well up on their feet, they are less liable to foot-rot than almost any other sheep, and, being active, are well adapted to procure a living where some of the other English breeds would not subsist. The ewes are particularly prolific, many of them producing twins. The lambs are always active, hardy; and the ewes are good mothers.

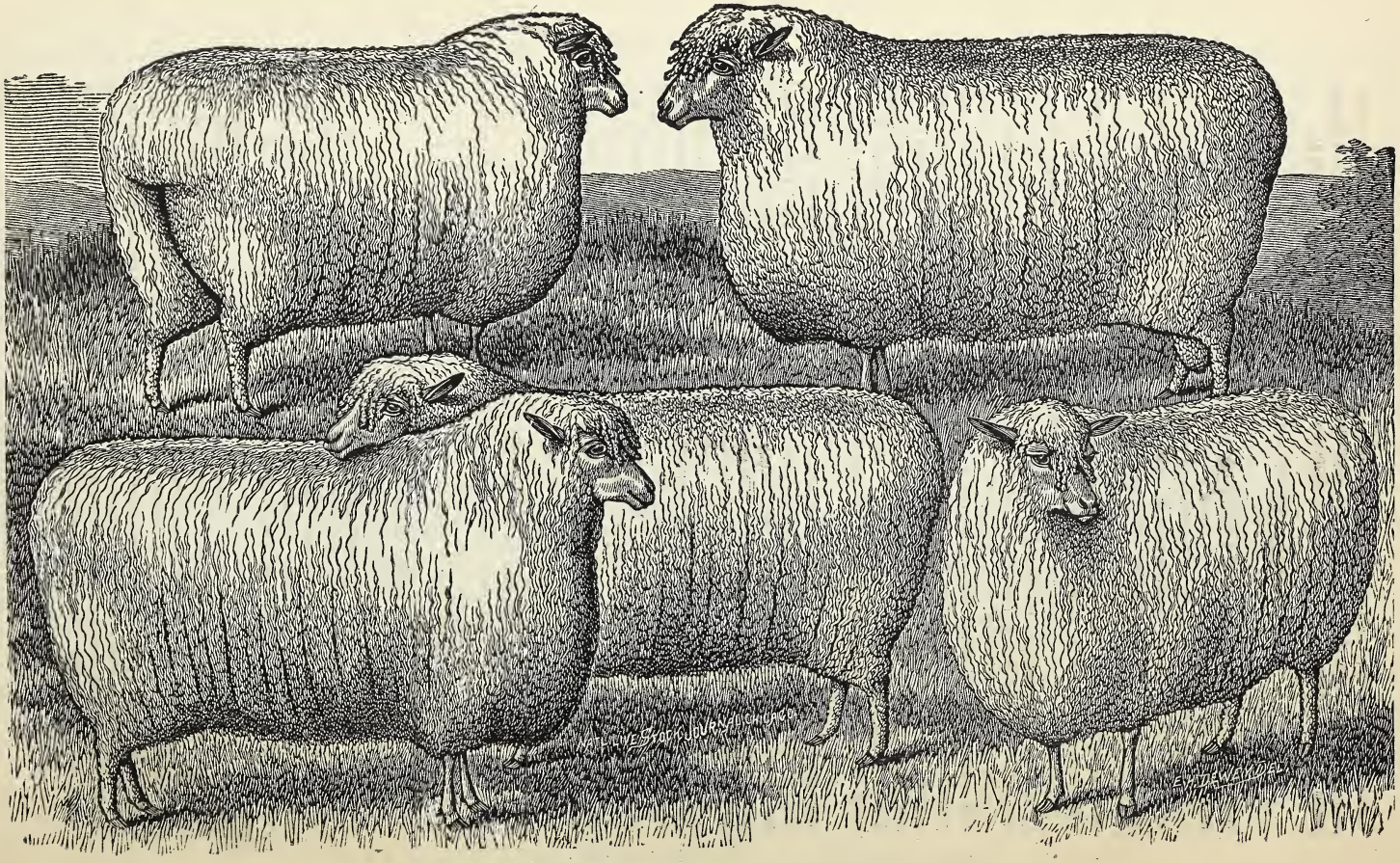
An objectionable point in a Cotswold is a bare head. The head should be well woolled on the cheeks up to the eyes and partially around them. The nose should be straight, or nearly so, and the head minus horns. The well-bred Cotswold should stand straight on all four of his legs. The countenance should be intelligent and well proportioned. The brisket should be prominent, and the hind quarters square, broad, and full. The ribs should be well sprung, the flanks deep, and the legs clean with heavy bone, free from wool and of medium length. The ear should have the feeling of velvet, and should be thick. The eye should be large, transparent, with the white of the eye of a purplish color.

In managing the Cotswold, the exercise of care and attention pays, just as in the breeding of any other sheep. Although able to withstand many hardships, if they can be protected from them so much the better, thus absolving the shepherd from cruelty to his flock and increasing his profits from it very materially. The influence of cold is a waste to the body, and consequently more food is necessary, warmth being often a substitute for food. Besides this the fleeces will be sounder, healthier, and better grown in every way. In summer they should be protected from scorching suns, and in spring and autumn from cold rains. Such care bestowed on them or any other sheep will be time profitably employed.

As the taste for well-fattened mutton continues to grow among the great American meat-eating public, so the popularity of the Cotswold will continue to widen; for with its many superior qualities as a mutton sheep it is bound to be esteemed wherever bred. Straightness of back, breadth of loins, and roundness of frame are points of excellence which cannot fail to be recognized, and cause it to hold the position it has retained so long,—that of one of the best of the English mutton breeds, and one that has borne a prominent part in the improvement of more than one of our popular English breeds.

OTHER LONG-WOOLLED BREEDS.

With the brief space at our disposal in the present pamphlet, we need merely allude to the other long-woolled breeds of sheep after our very full description of the Cotswold. In England the Leicester blood is very prev-



A GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVE COTSWOLDS.

alent among all the long-woolled sheep. The Lincoln was formerly characterized by a gaunt carcass and coarse and entangled wool. The Romney Marsh, of which little is known in this country, had a rough form, long legs, and irregular and coarse wool. All of these characteristics, however, have been modified by breeding; and all the improved varieties of long-woolled sheep have become so similar in their characteristics that the Virginia farmer will find that the Cotswold answers his purpose as well as any other. In England a good deal of attention is being devoted to the New Leicester, a variety of long-woolled sheep in which breeders have obtained great perfection of carcass with some sacrifice of wool. The reason for this is that the English farmers who have reared this class of sheep have preferred to lose two or three pounds of wool for the sake of gaining ten or twelve pounds of mutton. With them the first object is the value of the carcass, and the fleece is always a secondary consideration.

CHAPTER VII.

THE HAMPSHIRE DOWN: SOME FACTS ABOUT THIS WELL-KNOWN BREED FROM A PRACTICAL SHEEPMAN.

FRAMINGHAM, MASS., May 10, 1892.

Editor of the American Shepherd's Year Book:

Dear Sir.— In reply to your request, I send you photographs of thirteen Hampshire rams and six ewes just imported. Eleven of the rams are yearlings and two are two-year-olds, weighing 238½ and 332 pounds respectively and shearing 12 and 9½ pounds of wool, which is first-class combing wool, worth in present market about thirty-two cents.

The ewes are all yearlings, weighing 191 pounds and shearing 14½ pounds. While the Southdown breed of sheep has probably done more toward improving other breeds than all the others, experience seems to prove that the larger breeds of Downs, such as Oxford, Shropshire, and Hampshire, must necessarily help the sheep-breeding industry still more for the following reasons:—

All of these larger Down breeds have the same early maturity tendency, more or less, of the Southdown, with a much larger carcass and a much heavier fleece.

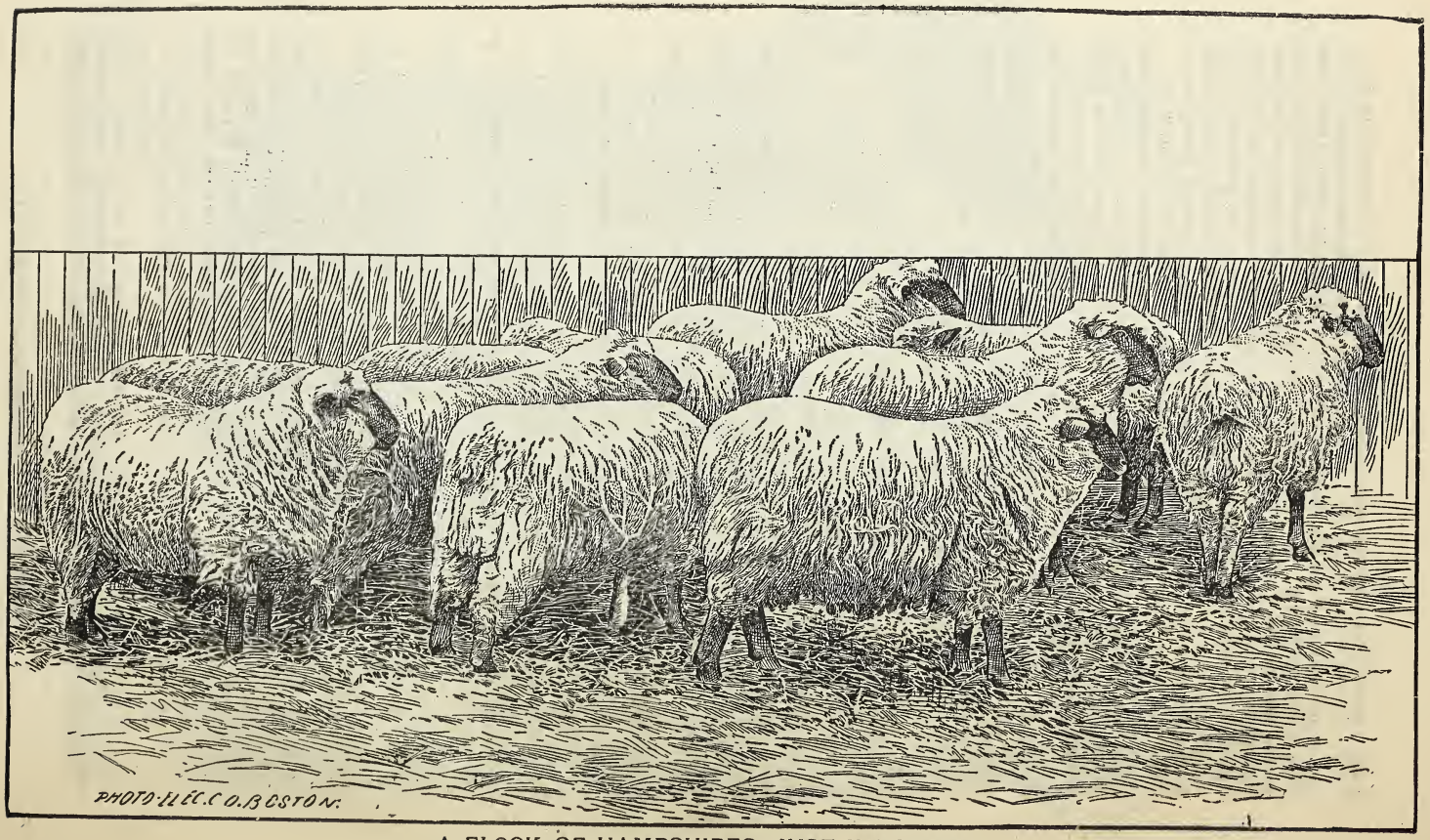
The Hampshire is better than the Oxford, because its fleece is much closer and withstands our storms much better. The one thing a sheep cannot stand is getting its skin wet, which always happens in loose-woolled sheep.

The Hampshire makes a stronger cross on our grade ewes than either of the other breeds, perhaps owing to its breeding, which is the result of intelligent breeding by the working (not fancy) farmers of Hampshire, Berkshire, and Wilkshire, by the farther infusion of selected Southdown blood with very black faces on the best of their native sheep, which had for many years more or less Southdown blood bred into them.

I take the following description of the Hampshire from the preface to the *Hampshire Down Flock Record*, established 1890, written by its president, James Wood, Esq., of Mt. Kisco, N.Y.:—

"His head is rather large, with a Roman face; neck long and usually well set on; shoulders sloping; brisket deep, with abundant room for the vital organs; back straight, with a spring of rib going around the barrel; loin broad; quarters long and broad; hams round and heavy; legs bony and strong; and feet large and open, with a tough sole and crust.

"The face and legs are the blackest of any of the Down breeds. Gray faces are avoided. The wool is of medium length and strong fibre. It is



A FLOCK OF HAMPSHIRES, JUST IMPORTED.

used for making cheviots, tweeds, and such business cloths, and commands the top prices. Flocks of breeding ewes average about seven pounds to the fleece. Mature rams weigh three hundred pounds, and ewes something over two hundred."

Sheep husbandry cannot be carried on solely for wool, as was the case a few years ago with great profit, because the price of wool has decreased so much; but, with the larger breeds which mature their lambs at fifty days old, dressing twenty-five pounds and clipping enough wool to nearly pay their keep for a year, no branch of agriculture offers such a profitable investment, provided the farmer going into it knows about the care of sheep, or is willing to begin slowly and learn his lessons by experience on a small scale without great expense.

The above refers to early lambs, to be killed before May. The winter lamb business requires more knowledge and experience than the commoner way of having lambs dropped in the spring after sheep are turned out.

Working on this plan, a large part of the crop of lambs can be sold during July and August for about five dollars apiece, in almost any local market.

Those not old enough to go then can be fed through the winter, taking off a clip of about six pounds of wool in early spring, which pays for their winter's keep.

With the present demand for yearling mutton, any of these larger Down sheep give a carcass heavy enough to bring in five dollars for each lamb so treated.

I cannot impress too strongly the fact that the rams used must be pure bred and of the best quality.

A ram must be as good for raising market lambs as for raising pure bred lambs for breeders.

The difference in value between a lamb sired by the best ram and an inferior one is at least a dollar a lamb.

These rams in the picture were imported for the purpose of raising market lambs from about nine hundred grade ewes.

Yours very truly,

E. F. BOWDITCH.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE BLACK-FACED SCOTCH HIGHLAND.

It is not because this almost unknown breed of sheep in America is particularly adapted to America that occasion is taken to illustrate it or describe its salient features in this volume, but because it is interesting to note the extremes in breeding. For a similar purpose is presented a cut of the Infantado ewe on page

The Black-faced Scotch is called in its native place "Heather Sheep," and is a very peculiar breed, habiting the lofty but barren and heathy hills which extend from Derbyshire, England, to the confines of Scotland, through the counties of Cumberland, Lancashire, Westmoreland, and Yorkshire.

This breed possesses characteristics which distinguish it from any other in the British Isles. It is smaller with respect to the weight at which it arrives, but it is larger and more robust than the ancient soft-woolled sheep which it displaced. The rams and ewes have horns very large and spirally twisted, but sometimes disappearing in the ewes. The legs are lengthy and muscular, and the general form is robust. The face and legs are black, and there is a general tendency to this color in the fleece. These sheep are very hardy and capable of subsisting on the coarsest heaths, and would be a valuable breed for exterminating brush, etc.

The mutton has a venison flavor, and is preferred to every other by those

BLACK-FACED SCOTCH.

who have used it. A great defect of this breed, however, is the character of the fleece, which, besides being thin on the body, yields wool only fit for carpets and coarser stuffs. They do not really amalgamate, or cross, with other breeds.

CHAPTER IX.

THE SHROPSHIRE.—A BRIEF REVIEW OF ITS PAST HISTORY AND A CONSIDERATION OF ITS SALIENT FEATURES.

Among the majority of the sheep-breeders of Virginia and the United States who look to wool and mutton as the principal source from which they are to derive a revenue, the most popular breed of sheep is the Shropshire. It is held in high estimation alike in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. In fact, it is the most popular breed in all the United Kingdom at the present moment. It has stood the test among the farmers of the United States for the past seven years, and its popularity shows no signs of abating.

Really, our farmers have never before experimented with an English breed which has taken more kindly to its new home or brought into their hands such large sums of money for mutton and wool. Probably no one has made money any faster from sheep in a legitimate way the past two years than those farmers who have given their attention to the production of early lambs, and for this purpose used the common grade merino ewe with a Shropshire ram. There is nothing more salable to-day for mutton purposes.

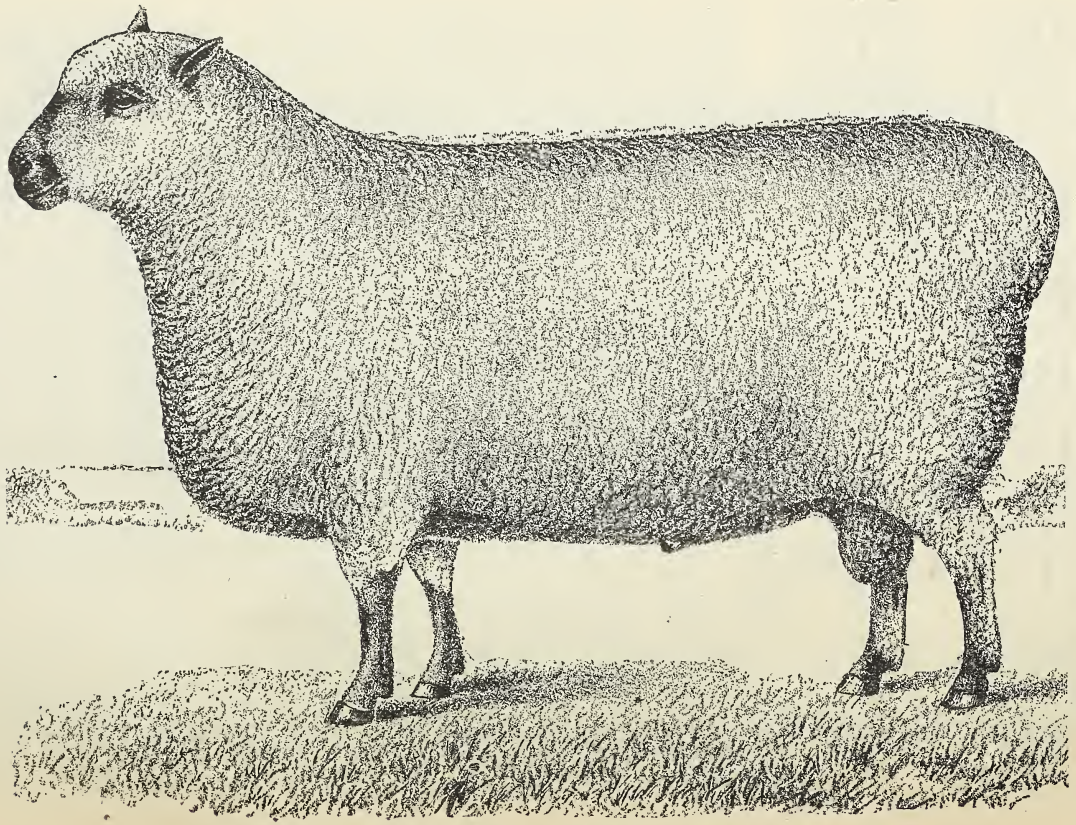
Some one has said, "The early history of the Shropshire, like that of our trotting horses, may be put down as untraced." The Shropshire is clearly composite, or mixed, in its origin; and it is only of comparatively recent date that it has received recognition as a distinct breed. To-day we have the American Shropshire Registry Association, which boasts of more recorded sheep, more active members, and more assets than all the present sheep organizations of the United States, Canada, and England combined. So much for the great popularity they have won. What better evidence could be offered?

The Shropshire Association have, they boast, 23,000 recorded sheep and 1,362 members, thus showing that they have registered an average of about 3,800 sheep per annum since their organization.

In their histories of various breeds of British sheep neither Low nor Youatt mentions the Shropshire as it exists to-day. In fact, it was only at the Gloucester show of the Royal Agricultural Society in 1853 that it obtained classes. Then afterward it was again dropped out of the prize schedule; but, in response to the powerful representations of breeders, the National Society formally and permanently accorded it a separate class.

The Shropshire of to-day is the product of cross-breeding the sheep of that shire, or county, with the oldest improved breeds, the Southdown and the Leicester. The union of these improved breeds resulted, as it always does, in the formation of a new breed, partaking of the characteristics of each; and the new type was then retained and intensified by judicious inbreeding. Thus the Shropshire has the size of the Leicester, the form of the Southdown, and the fleece is a combination of both, slightly coarser than that of the Southdown and shorter than the Leicester. The fleece also carries more oil than the Southdown.

The face of the "Shrop" is much larger than that of the Southdown, and also somewhat longer; forehead broad, prominent, and slightly arched; ears larger than the Southdown. The color of the face is a softened black, and occasionally a very dark gray, or inclining to gray, on the jaw. The forehead is well covered with wool. The legs are darker than the face, and set



THE SHROPSHIRE.

wide apart; neck strong, broad and deep at the shoulders, tapering symmetrically to the head; shoulders flat, back short, ribs well sprung, hips wide, with long hind quarters and full haunch. They carry fleeces of closer-set fine wool, longer in staple than that of the Southdowns. In good flocks the wool averages 6 to 8 pounds per fleece, hoggets clipping up to 12 or 14 pounds. Shropshire shearlings commonly weigh 20 pounds or more per quarter, and two shears are fed up to 40 pounds or more per quarter.

The Shropshire is generally placed slightly below the Hampshire in size; but the past five years have witnessed a considerable improvement in this respect, and it is doubtful if any real difference now exists. It is smaller than the Oxford, which it resembles less than it does the Hampshire.

The flesh of the "Shrop" is white, dense, and covering not only its body, but coming well down on the legs. Its mutton is regarded as second only to the Southdown, and the extra size of the quarters makes it a most attractive animal for the butcher.

They are exceedingly prolific, at least one-half of the ewes dropping twins; and they suckle better than any sheep of larger breed. They are hardy, and particularly adapted for enduring a wet climate. Rams of the Shropshire breed are much used for crossing inferior classes of sheep, chiefly for the purpose of rearing lambs for the butcher; and the sheep-breeder of Virginia will find no ram which will answer his purpose better on the native mountain sheep which he handles than the Shropshire.

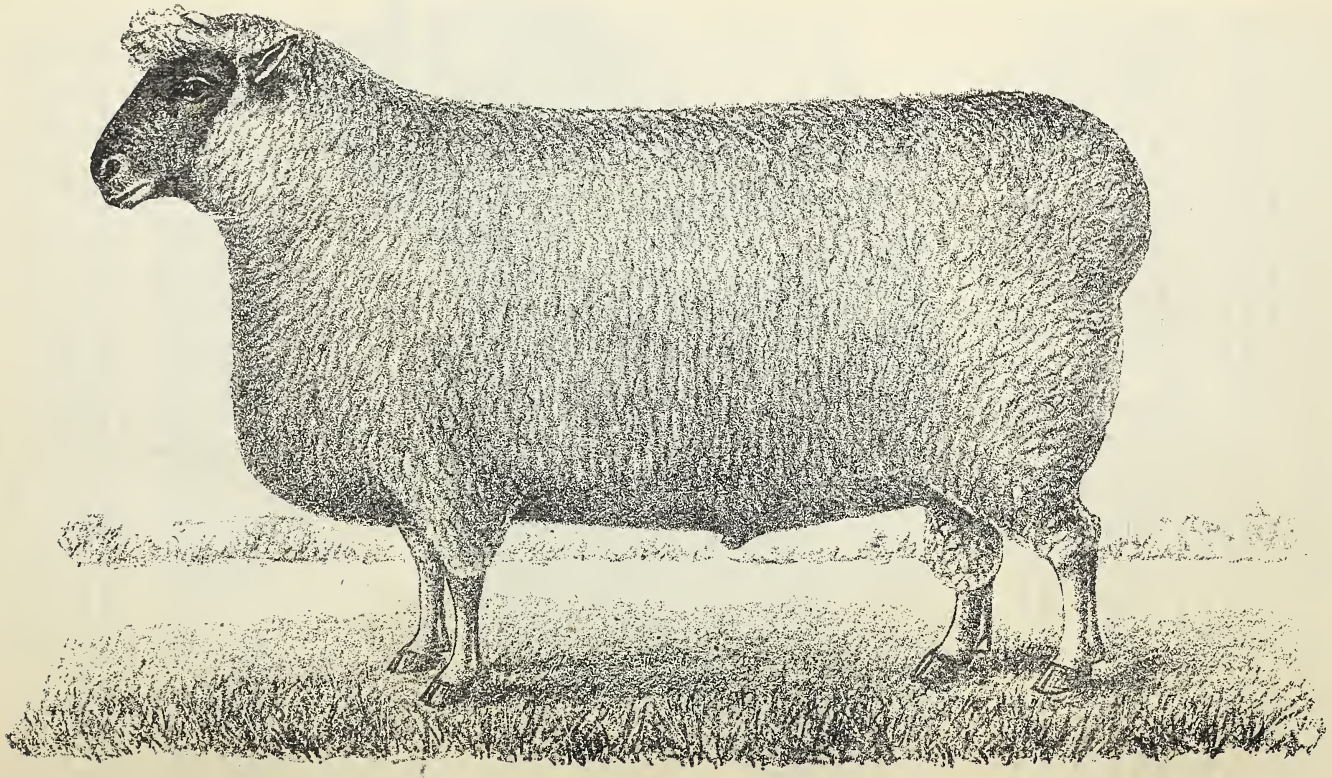
Mr. Mansell, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Eng., who is high authority, describes a model ram as follows: "Well-developed head (not coarse), well covered, no horns, with clean and s riking expression of countenance; a prominent eye; a body deep and symmetrical, placed squarely as possible on short legs; good leg of mutton; straight spine; deep, well-sprung ribs; massive chest; a muscular neck, well set on good shoulders; nice style and carriage; no inclination to pull or drop wool around jaws or belly; nice cherry skin; face and legs a nice soft black, not sooty nor a rusty brown; no white specks; ears thin and blood-like, not heavy and drooping; moderate bone; wool of the finest staple and as close and merino-like as possible, with no admixture of gray." To prevent deterioration, it is very essential to insist on conformity to the established features of the breed.

In regard to the size of the different breeds mentioned, we find the following interesting figures in a report of the average weight of carcasses of each breed for a whole year at Mark Lane, one of the great English markets: —

	Lambs under One Year.	*Wethers under Two Years.*	*Ewes over Three Years.*
	lbs.	*lbs.*	*lbs.*
Leicester	144	252	290
Cotswold	102	317	283
Lincoln	176	301	383
Hampshire	193	259	266
Shropshire	197	257	235
Southdown	142	206	203
Oxford	177	281	274

Elsewhere will be found some opinions of breeders which denote particular favor accorded the Shropshire. To get the most good out of them, however, they must be handled as nearly as possible under the conditions which are natural to them. They are hearty feeders because they are fast growers, and they must have comfortable quarters.

The mutton breeds, it must be remembered, are the product of the very highest agriculture. They have been bred from early maturity to put on flesh rapidly; and, to do this, they must have the food necessary to grow it. One may unhesitatingly advise every farmer in America to try the Shropshire. They will make them money.



THE OXFORD.

CHAPTER X.

THE OXFORD: A BREED WHICH HAS SUCCEEDED WELL ON AMERICAN FARMS.

One of the most meritorious of the British mutton breeds of sheep is the Oxford-down, which, although generally classed as one of the middle wools, is properly rather more closely related to the long-wool family.

The Oxford is generally recognized as the result of a cross between the Hampshire-down and Cotswold; but there is doubtless Southdown blood here, too, which assists to lend more of the Down characteristics. Some authorities hold that the Oxford is really the product of the Leicester, Cotswold, and Southdown crossed together; but this theory is hardly substantiated, if we are to consider authentic the early statements of its breeders. The Oxford is perhaps the largest framed of the Down breeds, and favors in form and fleece the Cotswold. The evident intention of its originators was to grow a sheep which would furnish the largest carcass of meat possible and possessing a quality as good as that of any of the Down breeds, the fleece being a consideration of secondary importance.

Wherever introduced in this country, the Oxford has won friends; and they are challenging older rivals in the race for superiority and popular favor. Within the past few years more attention, too, is being paid to its fleece. The result has been a greater density and fineness of fibre than the breed possessed when first brought into public notice.

It will perhaps be remembered that almost their first introduction into this country occurred in 1876, when a few specimens were shown at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where they attracted considerable notice. At English shows the Oxford has been recognized as a separate breed since 1862.

The distinguishing characteristics of the Oxford are size, hardiness, and early maturity,— three most important features. It is also possessed of short limbs, is of square build, with a gray or brown face. The nose has a gray or white spot on the end. The legs are a dark brown, smoky color. The fleece is longer, still not as dense as is that of the Shropshire, neither is it as fine. Cotswold blood is plainly detected in the wool from the waviness running all through it.

CHAPTER XI.

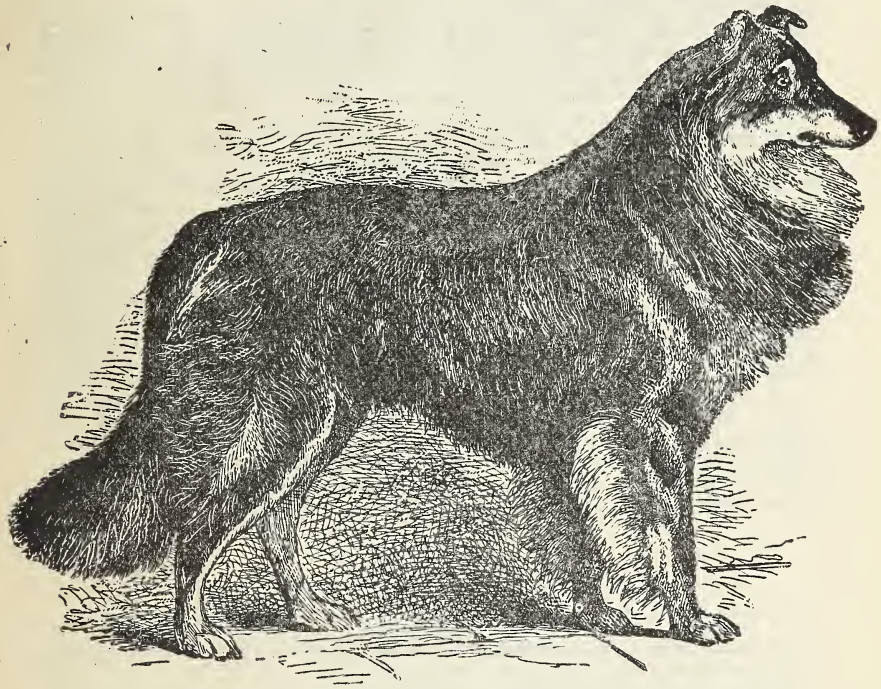
THE SHEPHERD DOG.

Perhaps a book about sheep would not be complete without a few words concerning the shepherd's friend, the collie, whose picture we present herewith.

A very excellent work upon "The Practical Training of the Shepherd Dog" has just been published by W. A. Wickham, of Tipton, Iowa, and can be obtained from him for 50 cents. There are five different kinds of shepherd dogs in the United States; namely, the Scotch collie, the German, Spanish, and Mexican, and the bob-tailed English sheep dog. Of these the Scotch collie is regarded as the best, and is most known. Let us say right here, however, that it will be better for the Virginia farmer to keep no shepherd dog than to have one which is ill-bred or ill-trained. Throughout the North-west many mongrel collies are to be seen,— mainly a bull and collie cross. As a result, an old sow or a grown hog has rarely a whole ear, the ears having been split and torn off by mongrel dogs. But the properly trained sheep dog is a great assistance to the flockmaster.

PROTECTION AGAINST WILD ANIMALS AND DOGS.

In Texas and Mexico they have a way of training dogs with the sheep. The pups, when first whelped, or before their eyes are open, are taken from the dam and put to a sucking ewe, already deprived of her own lamb. For several days the ewe is confined with the pups in the shepherd's hut; and, either from force or an instinctive desire to be relieved of the contents of the udder, she soon allows the little strangers to suck, and in the course of a few days more becomes quite reconciled to the change and exhibits a great degree of affection for her foster children, who, knowing no other parentage, become thus early engrafted into the general community, and return their early kindness by every mark of affection and fidelity hereafter, never being willing for a moment to quit their society, but remain with them



THE SHEPHERD DOG.

night and day, expressing a peculiar attachment to this particular flock, and seeming able to distinguish each member of it from all other intruders. The collie will also bring the sheep home in the evening, if you feed him regularly at the hour you wish the flock home. The South American shepherd's dog becomes accustomed, when a puppy, to its future companions. Taken when very young from its mother, it is held three or four times a day to a ewe. A nest of wool is made for it in the sheep-pen, and no dog or children allowed to come near.

In the great north-western section of the United States bells are quite generally used upon the sheep as a protection against dogs and even wild animals. There is also a large and growing class of breeders in the Eastern States who place great weight upon the protective power of sheep bells. They show by their constant use of these little "alarmers" their faith in the

idea that they actually drive away dogs. Some flockmasters put a bell on every fifth sheep.

If a few dry cows or heifers are kept in the field with sheep, the dogs will seldom molest them. Sheep have been found in the morning huddling so close around and under a friendly old cow that she could not get away from them: she had saved their lives.

There are various opinions respecting the use of sheep dogs. Mr. L. M. Hartley, of Salem, Iowa, one of the most successful breeders of sheep in the United States, writes: "If the money that is spent to-day for sheds was spent for barbed wire and high posts, and used to build fences with fifteen wires and so close together as to keep dogs out, it would save millions of dollars' worth of sheep that are killed by dogs or lost by shedding them, which is equally as bad.

"No shepherd dog should be allowed on any sheep farm. Some men who cling to the habit of driving sheep with a dog simply because they enjoy it, must forego the pleasure or never succeed as they should do in the sheep business. Sheep ought not to run, but those that are driven by dogs soon learn to bunch up and run to the barn when the dogs bark. There is nothing that will so soon ruin a flock as running them.

"About 6 per cent of the sheep in this country are killed by worthless curs, and 50 per cent are more or less injured by being chased and frightened, as they will not thrive after being chased by dogs. The best way to poison a wolf that has killed your sheep is not to remove the sheep that are killed, but place strychnine in them and for a few nights take your flock out of this pasture, so that when the wolf returns, as he certainly will, he cannot find live sheep to chase and he will return to the ones already killed and you will be almost certain to catch him within four nights. This rule holds equally good concerning dogs, and while it might be considered wrong to poison your neighbor's dog, it would be an awfully mean dog that would enter a sheep pasture to steal the bait you had set for a wolf."

Mr. Hartley is equally emphatic in opposition to excessive housing of sheep. He found that shedding even sick sheep did not help their condition in a general way, and though these views must be somewhat modified by climatic conditions, yet many sheep are doubtless injured by too much confinement. There is no animal known that has been provided by nature with such a protection against cold as the sheep.

CHAPTER XIII.

HOW TO START A FLOCK IN AMERICA—PROFITS FROM WOOL.

To those who may be anticipating starting a flock of sheep in America, a word of advice will perhaps be acceptable.

Many farmers would hardly care to commence by purchasing a flock of registered ewes from fancy flocks, because the cost would be too great, unless they proposed to establish a breeding farm on which to raise choice rams for the trade, *i. e.*, for the improvement of stock, which no doubt could be pursued with profit. And so, unless he preferred to secure a few choice ewes served to ram, which would be preferable, his next best plan would be to breed upward from a flock of grade ewes. Having decided upon this course he will make a careful selection among the flocks in his neighborhood and purchase a flock of native sheep, which can be had at from $3 to $4 per head, drive them to his farm, and, when the breeding season is at hand, serve them to a pure bred ram of whatever breed suits his fancy, whether Cotswold, Shropshire, Southdown, Oxford, or any of the other English breeds. The rams can be had at from $15 to $30 each. Thus the farmer could commence a flock which will involve but a comparatively small outlay.

The policy of the sheepmen, as a general rule in America, has been to change their sheep nearly as often as every two years, selling out entirely,

and then commencing anew. Of course, those who have done this are only the farmers who have bred the native sheep to improved rams; for a farmer having a good flock of pure bred animals could not afford to part with them. It is the belief among the breeders that this is necessary, in order that the flock continue healthy.

When sheep are kept in the same pasture for a considerable time, they are quite apt to evince distastefulness toward the feed, and a change is beneficial; but, if the farmer has a number of pastures and not too large a flock, it will hardly be necessary to change so often, and, if a little science is exercised in care, not at all. The number of sheep kept to the acre should not exceed one, unless clovers or other artificial grasses are grown.

It has also been the plan of a number of breeders, or, what is a more proper term, speculators, to realize three profits from handling sheep yearly, first by buying a party of grade ewes in the fall, shearing and selling their wool in May, the lambs from them in June and July, and finally the original purchase, fattened, in October for mutton. This plan, however, tends to make sheep more scarce, when it is an increase of flocks that is so much needed

Shearing should occur between May 1st and June 10, even earlier than the former date, if quarters are provided in which shelter can be had if a cold day should occur. Farmers who have kept sheep in the West are, many of them, of the opinion that, even if kept for wool alone, sheep would pay; and there is little doubt that they will when the benefit they are to the farm is considered.

Sheep are the safest and best general stock for the farmer to handle, and their manure is the very best of fertilizer. If you get hard pressed, you can sort out a few or enough to meet your present demands, and they will almost always meet with a ready sale. Sheep are the best kind of stock to clean out briery or bushy fields. They will eat almost anything of a weedy nature. For the fields' sake it pays to keep sheep.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE DOG NUISANCE.—THAT WORTHLESS CUR.

So long as love for the worthless cur holds sway in the home of the American farmer, so long must the cause of the meek and lowly sheep be held in subjection, and continue to languish.

Sheep-breeding and wool-growing is an industry which the farming classes of America can pursue with profit. They should seek to diversify the products of their farms, and thus have something that will always sell for good prices. There are some classes of products that are enormously high in the markets of the State, others that are sold by the farmers at low prices, among them being beef cattle. Mutton, however, commands a very fair price, and is steadily growing in favor daily. There is plenty of land in America that is adapted to sheep-raising, and some that is not suited for much else; but, as long as the dogs are allowed to outnumber the sheep, these extensive tracts cannot be properly utilized. Now, this seems a very unthrifty condition of affairs, and certainly suggests that the farmers care little whether they make farming a financial success or not.

Not many years ago the legislature of Tennessee passed a law taxing dogs, the object of the measure being to reduce their number, and thus make sheep husbandry possible. Note with what spirit this movement was received. If a law had been framed and passed to slay the first-born in

every family in Tennessee, it could hardly have met with more general hostility or more noisy demonstration. Nothing could have been more unpopular. It proved the political death-knell of every member of the legislature who supported it, and those who were elected to the succeeding session went there with pledges to repeal it. The law was repealed; and dog-raising rather than sheep-raising is given precedence to-day. Now, in a greater or less degree, this same condition of affairs exists in Virginia and in other Southern States.

Worthless dogs are the curse of the entire South ; and, so long as they are tolerated, wool-growing and sheep-raising must remain crippled. With the enactment of proper laws, however, she may hope to become a wool-growing section of much prominence, thus producing the bulk of the raw materials entering into the manufacture of textile fabrics.

Following is the law relating to dogs in Massachusetts. Let there be a similar one enacted in the South. The majority of ravages among sheep are perpetrated by the mongrel species which have no excuse for living, and are the property of people who cannot afford to keep dogs.

MASSACHUSETTS DOG LAWS.

CHAPTER 102.

SECT. 94. Any person may kill a dog that suddenly assaults him when he is peacefully walking or riding without the enclosure of its owner or keeper; and any person may kill a dog that is found out of the enclosure or immediate care of its owner or keeper, worrying, wounding, or killing neat cattle, sheep, or lambs.

SECT. 95. If a person so assaulted, or finding a dog strolling out of the enclosure or immediate care of its owner or keeper, within forty-eight hours of such assault or finding, makes oath thereof before a justice of the peace or police court for the county, or before the clerk of the city or town where the owner of the dog dwells, and further swears that he suspects the dog to be dangerous or mischievous, and gives notice thereof to its owner or keeper, by delivering to him a certificate of such oath, signed by such justice or clerk, the owner or keeper shall forthwith kill or confine such a dog; and, if he neglects so to do for twenty-four hours after such notice, he shall forfeit ten dollars.

SECT. 96. A person owning or keeping a licensed dog who has received such notice, and does not kill the dog or keep it thereafter from ever going at large, shall forfeit ten dollars, if it is proved that the dog is mischievous or dangerous ; and any person may kill the dog if it is again found strolling out of the enclosure or immediate care of its owner or keeper.

SECT. 97. If a dog, after such notice to its owner or keeper, by such assault wounds or causes to be wounded any person, or worries, wounds, or kills any neat cattle, sheep, or lambs, or does any other mischief, the owner or keeper shall be liable to pay the person injured thereby treble damage, to be recovered in an action of tort.

SECT. 98. Whoever suffers loss by the worrying, maiming, or killing of his sheep, lambs, fowls, or other domestic animals by dogs, may inform the mayor of the city or the chairman of the selectmen of the town wherein the damage was done, and determine whether the same was inflicted by dogs, and, if so, appraise the amount thereof not exceeding twenty dollars. If, in the opinion of said mayor or chairman, the amount of said damage exceeds twenty dollars, he shall appoint two disinterested persons, who, with himself, shall appraise the amount thereof ; and, in either case, he shall return a certificate of the same, except in the County of Suffolk, on or before the first day of December, to the county commissioners, who during the month of December shall examine all such bills, and if any doubt exists, may summon the appraisers of all parties interested, and make such examination a they think proper, and shall issue an order upon the treasurer of the county in which the damage was done, for all or any part thereof, as justice and equity may require.

The treasurer shall annually, on the first Wednesday of January, pay all such orders in full, if the gross amount received by him for dog licenses, and not previously paid out under the provisions of this chapter relating to dogs, is sufficient therefor. Otherwise, he shall pay such amount *pro rata* upon such orders, in full discharge thereof.

The appraisers shall receive from the county or in the county of Suffolk from the city or town treasurer, out of the moneys received under the provisions of this chapter relating to dogs, one dollar each for every such examination made by them ; and the Mayor or the chairman of the selectmen acting in the case shall receive twenty cents per mile one way for his necessary travel.

SECT. 106. Every owner or keeper of a dog engaged in doing damage to sheep, lambs, or other domestic animals, shall be liable to an action of tort to the county for all damages so done, which the County Commissioners thereof have ordered to be paid, as provided in this chapter. The treasurer of the county may, and,

if so ordered by the County Commissioners, shall bring such action. In Suffolk County such owner or keeper shall be liable in like manner to the city or town for damages so done therein which the Board of Aldermen or Selectmen respectfully have so ordered to be paid; and the treasurer of such city or town may, and, if so ordered by the Board of Aldermen or Selectmen, shall bring such action.

The laws of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and of the remaining New England States, are almost equally as stringent, as are also those of Ohio and many other wool-growing States of the East.

CHAPTER XV.

DISEASES OF SHEEP.

The diseases to which sheep are most liable are "foot-rot" and "scab." The latter has existed from time immemorial, and injures both the wool and meat of the animal. It may originate from lack of care, insufficient food, or exposure to cold and wet. The prevailing cause of scab, however, is contagion; and, while it may be easily prevented or cured by "dipping" in a solution of tobacco or other preparation, of which there are many excellent ones in the market, it is a dangerous disease when not properly treated. The prevailing practice among owners of large bands of sheep in the United States is to dip them immediately after shearing.

Scab is not so prevalent in some countries as it was years ago, partly in consequence of the better attention which sheep receive, and partly because certain laws have been put into force which insist upon the disease being isolated and properly treated with a preparation of good repute. But the disease is still much too frequent and more frequent than is generally supposed, while in the states and some colonies it is quite general and is the sheepman's greatest enemy. Some farmers look upon it as more or less of a disgrace to have the scab among their sheep. It is a pity this feeling is not more universal, for really, as a rule, the sheep owner so troubled deserves but little sympathy. We are sorry to say, however, that many sheep farmers and shepherds still look upon "a touch of the scab" as a very trifling affair, and treat it as a matter of course. This is very much to be regretted; for were all equally in earnest there is no reason why scab should not in course of a few years be altogether eradicated. In hot climates, and in countries where flocks number many thousands of sheep, it is not quite such an easy matter as in those countries where sheep are kept in smaller bunches. Warm weather or a hot climate are favorable to the propagation and extension of scab, for the reason that the scab-mites then hatch much quicker and are altogether more vigorous. The disease sometimes appears to be dormant and to show but little disposition to spread during the cold weather of the winter months.

Scab in sheep is caused by minute parasites, or mites, which are so small as to be scarcely visible to the naked eye. Their presence, however, is none the less a reality, and the microscope shows them to be formidable pests; moreover they exist usually in such great numbers, and propagate so rapidly that, small as they are, they become a terrible plague. Most of us are aware of the havoc that can be made by the burrowing of the cheese mites, and they may be taken as a familiar illustration of the scab insects. Individually these acari are insignificant; collectively they form a living mass capable of working great destruction. This insect is peculiar to the sheep, for although the disease of scab corresponds with itch in man, and mange in the lower animals, the insect is in each case a different one, and the acarus which causes scab in sheep will not cause either of the other diseases, neither will the acarus which produces those diseases cause scab. Sheep scab is a very contagious disease. The reason of this is of easy explanation. The parasites readily pass from one sheep to another, either directly, or through the medium of locks of wool, or rubbing places, to which the insects adhere. It is found to be literally true that "one scabby

sheep infects the flock." The scab insects, propagating at an enormous rate, are very tenacious of life. It has been estimated by an eminent scientist that one single impregnated female would in three months develop into a family of one and a half million. They cling to the skin of the sheep, and puncture and penetrate beneath the scurf for the double purpose of obtaining nourishment and depositing their eggs. The eggs so deposited in hot weather become living parasites in about ten days, but the hatching process is slower in cold and wintry weather. Poverty of constitution and filth are highly favorable to the development and extension of scab. In sheep which are well cared for and dipped periodically, the disease rarely occurs; and when it does occur it is much more easily got rid of. Long-wooled sheep are more liable to the disease than short, close-wooled sheep, chiefly because the wool is thinner, and the animals therefore less sheltered from the inclemency of the weather. Looking at its cause, the scab may be said to be a local disease of the skin; but from the great and continued irritation, it frequently assumes a constitutional character, and the general health of the sheep suffers in consequence.

The earliest indications of scab frequently pass unnoticed by the flockmaster. The disease is rarely discovered until it is fully established, and scabs already exist. Sheep so affected are constantly biting or rubbing themselves, endeavoring to allay the unbearable itching which is caused by the burrowing of the scab insects. The parts chiefly affected are the neck and back; the lower parts of the body are comparatively free from the disease in its early stages. Locks of wool are bitten off and hang loosely to the sheep, or to rubbing posts, or hurdles, or fall to the ground; and these are a frequent means of carrying the scab mites from one sheep to another, for the insects will live in this state, away from the body, several weeks or even months. Scratching of the elbow with the hind foot is a suspicious sign. The sheep lose their condition, no matter how well they may be fed. The wool becomes altered in character and appearance, and frequently falls off in patches. On examination of the skin it will be found to be covered with eruptions, which, from constant rubbing, soon become a mass of sores or scabs. There can be no doubt that the itching sensation caused by the disease is intense, for if these parts are scratched or rubbed with the hand, the animal shows its appreciation by the usual characteristic motion of the lips and mouth. The scabs are not the disease itself, as is frequently supposed, but merely a result of the disease. The burrowing of the scab mites gives rise to irritation, and, as a result of the irritation, the skin throws out a glutinous material which, combining with the scurf upon the surface of the skin, dries, and forms a scab. In the worst stages of the disease, diarrhœa comes on, and tumors form in various parts of the body, and the animal dies from exhaustion.

It is of great importance that the disease be detected in its early stages, for the longer it has existed the more difficult will it be to eradicate.

Cooper's Dipping Powder is now so universally recognized by sheepmen throughout the world as the best scab cure before the public, and we have elsewhere given such overwhelming proof of the fact, that we offer no apology for making that preparation the basis of our observations under this head. Mr. Frank P. Bennett has used it for several years with good effect upon his flock in Maine, and it has never been known to fail when applied in accordance with the printed directions which always accompany each packet of the powder.

There are in scab, as in every other disease, many conditions which tend either to check or encourage its development. A flock enfeebled for want of proper food or undue exposure to wet and cold, will be more difficult to cure than a perfectly healthy one. Everything must, therefore, be done to raise and maintain the condition of the flock. The next point is to destroy the scab parasites. For this purpose the Cooper Dip is unequalled—they cannot live in its presence if the dipping operation be properly performed. Naturally no remedy can possibly effect a cure of scab if it does not reach the scab parasites; and unless every part of the skin is brought into contact with the liquid, the dipping may be in-

effectual. It is also necessary that the entire flock should be dipped, and not those merely upon which symptoms of scab have been discovered. This will destroy all the parasites which exist at the time of the operation; but, unfortunately, it will not destroy their eggs, which are embedded beneath the scurf; and no dip can possibly destroy them. These eggs will hatch and become living parasites in from twelve to eighteen days, according to the time of year. The sheep must then be dipped again, to destroy this brood of young parasites, and as there has been no deposition of eggs during the interval between the two operations, the second dipping, which is the great point to be attended to in the cure of scab, usually eradicates the disease. It is of great importance that this second dipping should follow the first at the proper interval. If done too soon, or not soon enough, it may fail in the object we have in view. The limits of the interval between the two operations should be fourteen to eighteen days according to the season of the year. The longer interval is better during the winter months, when the hatching process (and the disease generally) makes slower progress. The second dipping, at half the strength of the first, should be carried out even though the first may seem to have effected a cure. The first dipping usually has the effect of decidedly checking the disease, but if left to this it will most likely break out again a few weeks later, and we are as far off a cure as when we dipped first. It is true, some makers of dip state that their preparation will destroy the eggs of the parasite. This only requires one moment's consideration to show its absurdity. Many applications which would speedily kill a chicken would quite fail to kill an egg, or to render it unfertile; and the comparison is a fair one with reference to the scab insect. Once hatched you can kill the young insects; but no preparation can destroy the eggs without endangering the life of the sheep. True that sufficient of the dip may remain in the fleece from the first dipping to destroy part of the young brood as they hatch; but in practice it has been found that this cannot be absolutely depended upon, for the wool grows quickly, and the new wool next to the skin being quite free from the dip, any young parasites remaining in this beyond a limited number of days, become fresh depositors of eggs. The thick fleece of the merino sometimes retains the liquid from the first dipping so well that a second operation is not found necessary. Before deciding to dispense with a second dipping an examination of the flock should be made, and the effect of the first dipping closely watched. The second dipping must be performed early enough to destroy the young parasites before they begin to deposit eggs, and not too early, or they will not all have been hatched.

The Sheep Tick.—This is a pest from which very few flocks are entirely free. It thrives best on poor, ill-fed sheep with weak fleeces, and is found in the greatest numbers on those parts of the body which the animal cannot reach. Its presence is shown by the sheep nibbling at its sides, or rubbing against walls or fences to relieve the skin irritation which the tick sets up, the itching from which is even more persistent than with mosquito bites, owing to the poisonous matter which they secrete while feeding. As the parasites multiply—which they do very rapidly, especially in warm weather—this irritation becomes so great that the animal goes off its feed and soon loses condition. This, added to the loss of wool produced by the rubbing before referred to, becomes a serious item to the flock-master. At shearing time the parasites pass in large numbers to the lambs, and with their tender skin the annoyance is particularly aggravating, The eggs of the tick are oval in form, and in color very much like the pippin of an apple, and are found attached to the fibre of the wool by a sticky substance secreted from the female.

The insects readily pass from sheep to sheep, and can live apart from the flock for several days—especially on light soils and in the summer time. This demonstrates the necessity for periodical dipping.

The Sheep Louse.—The little red-headed sheep louse is sufficiently prevalent to demand serious attention. Open, long, or coarse-wooled sheep are most afflicted with these insects, which rarely attack close-wooled sheep.

The sheep louse is quite small, about one-twenty-fifth of an inch in length. The female is slightly longer and larger. It is characterized by its reddish head and the pale, transverse bands which cross the abdomen.

It is most probable that sheep can only get the lice from other sheep, as another host is yet unknown. The presence of these parasites may easily be learned by searching for them or their eggs. A favorite place is between the legs and body, just under the shoulder, and on the neck. Sheep affected manifest their presence by scratching themselves with their hind feet or by rubbing against stationary objects.

The injury wrought by this parasite is caused by its life habits. The mouth parts of some other lice are so arranged that they can live on the blood of their host, and in biting through the skin cause an itching sensation and a wound. The lice of this particular species, however, are not fitted for penetrating so deeply, and appear to go but little deeper than the outer skin. They can probably bite through to the young growing tissue, for animals which are severely afflicted with these pests have a roughened scabby skin, which would not be the case if the parasite only lived on the hairs and scurf. The presence of these parasites on the skin not only gives discomfort to the sheep but causes the skin to thicken, become rough and covered with little dry black scabs, and the wool to become short, dry, gnarly and worthless wherever the pests attack the skin.

The Maggot Fly.—This is the ordinary blue-bottle fly, and in some countries it is one of the most serious and common pests which sheep have to contend against. In low lying or woody districts, especially during the warm showery weather, it hardly ever fails to put in an appearance.

The maggot fly usually attacks the hind quarters, being attracted there by the filth which so frequently collects near the tail, especially when the animal has diarrhœa. Here or on any accidental wound the fly deposits the maggots, which soon become a seething mass, and these quickly working their way under the skin occasion fearful torture. Not infrequently the head of the animal is the place attacked, the flies more readily reaching the skin.

Foot-rot, as its name implies, is confined mainly to the feet, and is generally the consequence of a soft and marshy pasture. The sheep abhors moisture, both overhead and underfoot, and its feet are constructed for rough ground. The foot is composed of two digits, or toes, each shod with a hoof composed of the crust, or wall, and the sole. The crust, being harder and tougher than the sole, is mainly intended to resist the wear and tear to which the foot of the animal is exposed. Any situation, like soft and marshy ground, which has a tendency to increase the growth of the hoofs without wearing them away, causes the crust to grow until it laps over the sole, like the loose sole of an old shoe, and serves to retain and accumulate earth and filth, or is broken off in detached parts. In this way, the quick may be exposed and new pores opened, into which particles of earth or sand force their way, until an inflammation is started which alters or destroys the whole foot. The ulceration of foot-rot is followed by maggots, and eventually by constitutional disturbance which may cause the death of the animal.

This disease, however, is also easily managed by paring away the detached portions of horn and thoroughly washing the foot in chloride of lime, dissolved in the proportion of one pound of the powder to a gallon of water. There is a difference of opinion among authorities as to whether foot-rot is infectious or not, but it is safest to prevent the sheep which has been attacked with the disease from rejoining its companions while there is the slightest discharge from any part of the foot.

While the two diseases already named are those to which the mature sheep is most liable, the lamb is of course subject to the usual proportion of diseases of infantile animal life. With proper care, however, sheep multiply rapidly, and the increase in lambs may be made a greater source of revenue even than the wool.

CHAPTER XVI.

SOME REASONS WHY WE SHOULD BREED SHEEP.

Not unlike many other lines of agricultural pursuits, sheep-raising is to a certain extent experimental and speculative; yet there are so many things that can be said in favor of the occupation that it would appear reasonable that farmers, even if they have but a few acres of their own, should consider the feasibility of keeping at least a few sheep.

Sheep-breeding, unlike dairying, is not so exhaustive of the soil, but, on the other hand, is almost a necessary adjunct in preserving the fertility of same. Moreover, the fact that sheep are the destroyers of weeds and briers that other stock will not touch should not be overlooked. It may rightly be said that "the sheep's foot is golden"; for it, in every instance, brings improvement, and not depletion, to the soil. The statement made by a reliable authority — although, perhaps, pertaining more directly to the mutton breeds — that but two-thirds the amount of food is required, when consumed by sheep, to produce a given result, which is required by other domestic animals, is a strong factor in favor of our breeding sheep more extensively. There are many other points equally as strong. A method that promises to restore productiveness to the land, and in the mean time be productive of profit in other ways, should, on the worn-out farms of the Eastern States certainly not be overlooked. There are but few farm animals that produce more valuable manure than sheep.

In considering the matter of soil exhaustion, Professor Stewart states that a fleece of five pounds of wool grown in a year requires only a daily growth of one-fifth ounce, and that the mineral matter taken from the soil by the fleece is but 1.6 ounce per year; and, if six half-mutton sheep represent a cow, the whole mineral constituents taken by the six fleeces would only be 9.6 ounces and about 1.9 pounds of nitrogen, while the ordinary cow, yielding 4,000 pounds of milk, would take 26 pounds of mineral matter, or ash, and 25 pounds of nitrogen, or forty-three times as much mineral matter and thirteen times as much nitrogen as the sheep. However, this is, of course, not considering all the elements of waste in feeding sheep, but is conclusive evidence that sheep husbandry, as compared with dairying, takes much less strength from the soil.

Do not overlook the fact that the productiveness of your farm is largely involved in what you are doing. At times the price of wool may rule low, mutton may not be in demand, yet there is almost sure to be enough sales of each during any year to pay the expenses of a flock of sheep, without even considering the increased value they are sure to bring to farming lands.

A good flock of sheep is the best helper, not only in filling the purse, but in keeping up the condition of the land without really any extra expense; that is, within reach of the husbandman. One thing should therefore be remembered by farmers who have suitable land at their command: that they make a very great mistake, and submit to annual loss of more importance than they imagine, in the absence of a good flock of improved sheep browsing upon their hills.

CHAPTER XVII.

SHEEP AT LAMBING TIME.—SOME HINTS ABOUT THE CARE OF YOUNG LAMBS.

It is obvious to those having experience in handling sheep that during the lambing period it is far better to divide the ewes into as small flocks as possible, as they can be manipulated much better and their young will be less in danger of being trampled under foot. In a large flock, it frequently happens that young lambs are injured at feeding-time, when grain is given the ewes in the yard outside the paddock; for, in their anxious scramble to reach their feed, they take no thought of their young, but ruthlessly rush forward, crowding the little ones hither and thither.

Particular pains should be taken to provide plenty of pure running water for the ewes, and it is also advisable to supply them often with salt. We should deem it an absolute necessity to have everything quiet, wherever the sheep are at this period. The shepherd should move carefully among his flock, lending assistance here and there, ministering to the weak ones and exercising care and strategy in handling the timid young ewes, who are disposed to ignore their first born. Sheep are the most nervous and sensitive of farm animals. They quickly notice changes, and are easily disturbed by them. Therefore, great care should be taken to allow no dogs to come within sight or scent of the barns or pastures, or any unnecessary disturbance to occur. In handling sheep at lambing-time, one's patience and perseverance are sometimes severely taxed. However, in the end, he who exercises both will succeed.

Among well-informed stock-breeders it is generally accepted as true that the feeding of roots, either carrots or beets or even potatoes, to breeding ewes during the lambing season and until the new grass is plentiful produces most beneficial results in the way of increasing the flow of milk. It is a good plan to commence the feeding of roots a month, at least, before lambing. In feeding them, sprinkle on a liberal supply of bran, or bran and meal, mixed in equal quantities. As well as roots, always feed the best of hay; and feed regularly, three times each day, if your sheep are not out to pasture.

In the North, where the sheep-breeder has warm and comfortable quarters for his stock, it is often advisable to shear the ewes before the lambs come, as, with the wool off, less trouble will be had in teaching the lamb to partake of its food; and the fear of their eating wool will also be avoided. Often young lambs stand for quite a length of time, and pull the wool from their mother and devour it with evident relish. However, we are unable to account for this unnatural craving; but we do know that there has been many a lamb lost from this source. One thing which does young lambs more good than almost anything else is warm sunlight. Who can imagine a more pleasing sight in farm life than to see a flock of thrifty young lambs capering about the sheep pasture or yard on a bright, sunny day? Then, after their frolic, to see them all lie down together and enjoy a sun-bath.

There is really a great deal of pleasure to be derived in handling and caring for sheep; but to make this vocation, as well as any other, a successful one, the breeder must feel a pride and love for it, and keep his mind keyed up to that point, when the labor and attention it requires are accorded as a matter of pleasure, to secure for himself the stimulus of a generous and growing enthusiasm, and to elevate himself above the level of slipshod systems, which are the source of universal disappointment and failure.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1894.

Range of Prices—Amounts Bought and Sold—Supply of Unsold Wool at the Close of the Year.

It is not alone the momentous change which, since our last annual review, has been wrought in our commercial and industrial system that will make 1894 the most memorable epoch in the textile history of the century.

A RETROSPECTIVE GLANCE

through the year which has closed will impress one with the fact that in respect to curious fluctuations in the course of trade; to the large quantity of wool sold during the first eight months of the year, when perhaps 50 per cent of the woolen machinery of the country was inoperative—about 40,000,000 pounds more wool was sold in the principal markets between Jan. 1 and Sept 27 than in the same period of 1893; to the invariably quiet tone of the market while large quantities of stock in the aggregate were being disposed of weekly; to the failure of anticipations or apprehensions concerning the results of legislation; to the anomalous but highly advantageous position in which the woolen and worsted industry found itself after the passage of the act of 1894; to happenings generally squarely contradictory of the general notion of what the results of the serious change in economic conditions should be—in respect to all these things, the period under review is the most remarkable in the history of the wool trade and woolen manufacture, and it will present itself to the future statistician, economist and student of industrial history as an altogether unique era, alike in the peculiar aspects of the course of trade, and in the curious consequences that resulted from the varying conditions of supply and demand.

THE OPENING WEEK OF THE YEAR

found wool values, generally, lower than ever before recorded; the market situation was exceedingly dull and uninteresting; the sales in the principal seaboard markets were not more than sixty per cent of the amount moved in the first week of 1893. Although the character of the demand was such as to render the quotations on some grades nominal, yet the tendency of the market was manifestly downward. With the exception of some kinds of combing wool, rates were easier than in the preceding December.

During the last week in January the sales of domestic wool considerably increased; it was estimated that 4,208,700 lbs. were taken in the three principal markets, together with about 300,000 lbs. of foreign. The purchasers were mainly worsted and knit goods manufacturers, and the great bulk of the stock was medium and fine medium territory, both in the grease and scoured; no improvement in prices resulted from this movement.

DOMESTIC CLOTHING FLEECES

were a cent lower by the middle of February than at New Year, demand for them had somewhat improved, but in value they were gravitating to the plane of territorial wools; the latter continued to be moved in fair sized amounts at prices generally equivalent to those realized a month earlier for similar sorts. Thenceforward, through the

FIRST QUARTER OF 1894,

there was a fair demand for Ohio fine wools, the scoured cost of which, the first of March, was 47 to 48c. for xx, and about 44c. for x. Australian combing and clothing at this time was bringing from 60 to 65c. Little was doing in Michigan wools, which were nominally worth 42½c. clean; Texas, California and Oregon wools were for the most part quiet, the first ruling about the same as at New Year, the second, a cent lower, and the last a cent better.

Though reports from Washington were not, on the whole, of an encouraging

character, and although the apparent condition of the goods market was far from assuring, and while the tone of the market, to the ordinary ear, was barely audible, there continued to be very considerable weekly movements of stock; the sales for the week ending March 1, in all markets, were within a couple of hundred thousand pounds as large as those made in the corresponding period of 1893. On the other hand

THE SALES OF FOREIGN WOOL

in this quarter, aside from carpet stock, were confined to "the cream of Australian," and amounted in our principal markets to but 1,745,000 lbs., against 8,431,800 lbs. during the first quarter of 1893. Prices of Australian during this portion of the year continued steady, in contrast with rates for domestic wool, about this condition obtaining until the passage of the act of 1894, as will be seen by an examination of the actual

THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1894.

By April it became apparent that there was a scarcity of certain kinds of wool in the market; fleece wool, except No. 1 clothing, was in light supply, as were quarter and three-eighths blood, also Texas and Oregon; the stock of territorial wools was much reduced, and were selling readily at 37@38c. for fine and 35c. for fine medium. The finer grades of pulled wools were in good supply.

There was more wool sold during the first week of April, 1894, than in the corresponding period of 1893, and a similar record was maintained during the month. During May the market was exceedingly dull, except for pulled wools; a peddling business was doing in Australian; carpet yarn mills, with but few exceptions, were shut down. One eye of the trade at this time was fixed on Washington, the other upon the initial arrivals of wool from the southern

COURSE OF THE MARKET

	Jan. 1. Cents.	April 1. Cents.	July 1. Cents.	Oct. 1. Cents.	Dec. 31. Cents.
Ohio xx and above	23 @24	21 @22	20	19 @20	18
Michigan x	19 @20	19 @20	17	17 " 18	16 @16½
Fine unw. and unmerchantable	12 @18	12 @17	10 @15	11 @15	10 @14
½, ⅜ and ¼ washed combing	25 @26	24 @25	22 @23	20 @21	21 @22
½, ⅜ and ¼ unwashed combing	19 @20	18 @20	15 @17	16 @18	16 @17
Texas twelve months'	11 @14	11 @13	11 @12	12 @13	10 @12
Texas six to eight months'	11 @13	9 @11	9 @10	10 @12	10 @12
Fine Montana	12 @13	12	11 @12	11 @13	9 @11
Fine medium Wyoming and Utah	11 @13	11 @13	9 @11	10 @13	10 @12
Northern spring (free) California	15 @16	14 @15	12 @13	13 @16	12 @13
East Oregon (average)	10 @11	11 @12	8 @ 9	12 @13	11½@12
A super choice. brushed	28 @30	32 @35	30 @32	32 @34	30 @33
B super (choice brushed)	25 @28	28 @30	27 @29	28 @30	26 @28
AUSTRALIAN COMBING AND CLOTHING.					
Bulk of business covered by	29 @33 duty p'd	29 @33	29 @33	19 @22	17 @22
CARPET WOOL:					
Aleppo	13 @14	13	13	9 @10	9½@10½
Bagdads (colors)	20 @22	19 @21	19 @21	15 @17	15
" (white)	22 @23	21 @22	21 @22	16 @19	17 @18
Autumn Donskoi	18 @19	18 @19	18 @19	14	14
Angora (white)	15	14	14	10½@11	11 @11½
Camel hair	14 @15	13½@14	13½@14	11 @12½	11 @12½

The decline in xx and above during the first quarter of the year was quite two cents a pound; in discount wools, a cent; in washed combing, a cent; in Texas (2 mo.), a cent; 6 to 8 mo., 2 cents; fine Montana, a cent; northern spring California, a cent. Fine medium Wyoming and Utah were worth as much April 1 as at New Year; Eastern Oregon (average) was bringing a cent more in April than in January; and clean A supers had advanced 4 to 5c. per pound, and B supers 2 to 3c.

The price of Australian was unchanged, but carpet wools generally declined from ½c. to a cent a pound.

and territorial districts. Such new territories as were then coming in brought, scoured, 34@35c. for fine, 32@33c. for fine medium, and 30c. for medium. It is interesting at date to compare these figures with current prices of scoured territories.

During this quarter, fine domestic wools declined from one to two cents; fine unwashed and unmerchantable, two cents; washed one-half, three-eighths and quarter-blood combing, two cents; unwashed of same grades, three cents; Texas, a cent; fine Montana in the grease on the first of July was little lower than in April, but fine medium

Wyoming and Utah had dropped about two cents in the interim, so had northern spring California, and average eastern Oregon was three cents lower than it was three months earlier.

A supers were two to three cents under April rates, and B supers had declined a cent a pound. Foreign wools were held nominally at the same rates as in April.

THIRD QUARTER.

In the first week of July, more than five million pounds of domestic wool were sold in the three principal seaboard markets; no more Australian was being taken out of bond than was necessary to piece out with; carpet wools were very slow, pending the settlement of the tariff question.

Combing wools were in pretty active demand. Sales would have been considerably larger if more lots had been opened up. In some districts east of the Mississippi, farmers were holding for better prices than dealers were able to pay. Arrivals were more or less interrupted by tie-ups along lines of transportation, resulting from labor disturbances in the West.

By the 17th of July there was no more, if as much, wool in manufacturers' storehouses than there usually is in the markets at the beginning of the new clip. The quantity of domestic wool of the clip of 1893 carried over into the new clip was less than any previous year. The sales of domestic wool continued to be large, particularly of territories, which perhaps being cheaper, were attracting more attention.

A DIMINISHED STOCK OF WORSTEDS.

A week later and thenceforth until the middle of August, the wool sales were of phenomenal size; while the speculative elements of the movement induced by the possible chances of the failure of the pending tariff bill, were apparent, yet beneath these was a large basis of demand for several kinds of combing and clothing wool. The retail clothier was finding it impossible to find enough worsted goods to supply his needs, and the worsted manufacturer felt he could wait no longer without buying wool; an active movement on his part was sufficient to give added firmness to quarter and three-eighths bloods, which were nominally a cent higher, although actual sales did not result in permanently higher prices. Ten days before the passage of the tariff act, buyers of goods began to realize that there was not the usual quantity of goods in the market from which to draw their supplies; manufacturers had not been making goods in advance of orders, as in other years.

After the passage of the bill, August 27, an immense amount of Australian was taken out of bond; the attention of users of wool was attracted in no small degree to various sorts of foreign wool; sales of domestic slackened somewhat. When the London sales opened on the eighteenth of the month, the anticipated advance in rates was not realiz d. Moreover, as the month wore away, it became evident that certain kinds of domestic, as, for example, "territories" would continue to hold a strong position in the estimation of a large portion of users of wool, notwithstanding a great deal of attention had been directed to wools farther off.

FOURTH QUARTER.

In the first week of October the prices of fine domestic varied very little from those of July; ½, ⅜ and washed combing was two cents lower; unwashed ½ and ⅜ combing was a cent higher than in July. Texas wools had advanced a cent at least; staple territories, California and Oregon were noticeably stronger; the scoured prices of A and B supers were from one to two cents higher than in July. The prices for Australian combing and clothing at this time showed only the difference between duty paid in July and duty off in October; for example, wools ranging from 29@33c., duty paid, were being quoted at 19@22c., without duty.

Carpet wools in the grease were selling from a cent and a half to four cents a pound under ante-free wool prices, as may be seen by the foregoing schedule; these rates continued to rule through the last quarter of the year.

Throughout November a considerable volume of business in domestic wools was done in the eastern markets, though at generally diminished prices; outside of the carpet wool trade which was quiet, transactions in foreign wool were, for the largest part, in just those lines of Australian which had been on the market previous to taking the duty from wool; these were taken in somewhat increased consequences, and could be bought toward the last of the year for less per scoured pound than in Sep-

tember. Other kinds of Australian, South American and Cape wools, did not at all meet with the success that had been anticipated; the increased production of South American softened prices, and again manufacturers in many instances found wools better adapted to current purposes.

STOCKS ON HAND.

The following are the actual stocks on hand, excluding wools in store owned by manufacturers and custom house returns.

WOOL ON HAND IN BOSTON.

	1895.	1894.	1893.
Domestic	39,745,950	39,736,400	31,162,500
Foreign	5,051,600	4,632,500	4,450,000
Total	44,797,550	44,368,900	35,612,500

DETAILS.

	1895. lbs.	1894. lbs.
Ohio fleeces (washed)	1,000,000	1,106,000
Ohio fleeces (unwashed)	588,050	695,000
Michigan fleeces (washed)	820,790	930,000
Michigan fleeces unwashed	462,730	467,000
Other fleece wools	2,690,820	2,718,000
Texas	1,722,600	1,740,000
California	7,374,510	7,449,000
Oregon	1,906,740	1,926,000
Territory	14,976,520	17,148,000
Pulled	2,815,680	2,346,000
Scoured	3,687,600	3,073,000
Unclassified	700,000	190,000
Total domestic	39,745,950	39,736,000

FOREIGN.

Australian and New Zealand	3,419,600	3,320,000
South American	100,000	60,000
Cape and Natal	125,000	80,000
British and Irish	13,800	11,500
Carpet	1,393,200	1,161,000
Total foreign	5,051,600	4,632,500

SALES AND RECEIPTS.

Dec. 20, 1894, the total sales in Boston since Jan. 1, 1894, amount to 139,833,785 lbs. against 122,065,000 in 1893. The total sales in New York in the same period aggregate 39,875,600 lbs.; in the corresponding term of 1893 the total sales were 30,094,500 lbs. Sales in Philadelphia from Jan. 1, 1893, to Dec. 20, 1894, amounted to 54,569,727 lbs. against 45,208,806 lbs. in the corresponding period of 1893.

The total receipts in Boston since Jan. 1, 1894, amounted, December 20, to 561,531 bales domestic and 100,596 bales foreign, whereas in the like period of 1893 there were 479,197 bales domestic and 124,662 foreign; the record for the current year is an increase of 82,334 bales domestic and a decrease of 24,066 bales foreign.

Importations of wool, port of Boston, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894:

ENTERED FOR DUTY.

	Pounds.	Value
Class No. 1	7,602,884	$1,308,250
Class No. 2	969,432	251,927
Class No. 3	11,463,487	$1,053,781
Total	20,035,803	$2,613,958

WITHDRAWN FROM WAREHOUSE.

	Pounds.	Value.
Class No. 1	8,876,204	1,589,223
Class No. 2	690,771	179,229
Class No. 3	12,385,447	1,169,818
Totals	21,952,422	$2,938,270

In warehouse Nov. 30, 1894:

	Pounds.	Value.
Class No. 3	1,604,070	$143,663

STOCKS AT OTHER NEW ENGLAND POINTS

DEC. 27, 1894.

Providence: 1895, 500,000; 1894, 495,000; 1893, 600,000 (domestic).

Hartford: 1895, 2,800,000; 1894, 2,500,000; 1893, 2,500,000.

Norwich: 1895, 500,000; 1894, 450,000; 1893, 500,000.

Rockland, Me.: 1895, 81,000; 1894, 60,000.

STOCKS OF WOOL IN NEW YORK.

DOMESTIC.

	Pounds.
Fleeces	48,000
Kentucky unwashed	2,500
California	53,000
Spring Texas	280,000
Fall Texas	460,000
Territory	3,539,500
Scoured	160,000
Pulled	1,020,500
Unclassified	52,000
Total	5,615,500

FOREIGN.

Australian and New Zealand	825,000
Cape and Natal	707,000
English	50,500
Montevideo	356,000
South American	220,000
Carpet	11,767,000
Unclassified	41,500
Total	13,967,000

WOOL IN BOND IN NEW YORK.

Class 1 & 3 clothing & carpet	216,093	$61,061
Class 2 combing	129,509	36,812
Total	345,602	$97,873

STOCKS IN PHILADELPHIA.

	Dec. 22, 1894. Pounds.
Ohio fleeces, washed	144,500
Ohio fleeces, unwashed	224,000
Michigan fleeces, washed	
Michigan fleeces, unwashed	50,000
Other fleece wools	1,098,000
Kentucky and other similar wools, both combing and clothing	46,500
Texas	77,500
California	
Oregon	
Territory	135,000
Pulled	416,000
Scoured	430,500
Unclassified	1,537,500
Total	4,159,000

FOREIGN.

Australian and New Zealand	230,000
Cape and Natal	105,000
English	216,000
Montevideo	580,000
Carpet	4,138,000
Unclassified	1,270,000
Total	6,539,000

Imports of foreign wool into Philadelphia, class 3, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 20, 21 and 22, 1894, 37,238 pounds; value, 3.545.

Baltimore: Dec. 27, 1894, 750,000 lbs. unsold in that vicinity; Jan., 1894, 750,000.

Alleghany, Pa., and vicinity: Dec. 26, 225,000 lbs. pulled, 1,500 bags; Jan. 1, 1894, 110,000 pulled.

Wheeling, W. Va.: Dec. 26, 600,000; Jan. 1, 1894, 300,000.

OHIO.

Cincinnati and vicinity: Dec. 1, 425,000 lbs. fleece, 225,000 pulled, various grades.

Zanesville: Dec. 1, 115,000 lbs.; Jan. 1, 1894, 110,000.

Canton: Dec. 1, 330,000 lbs.; Jan. 1, 1894, 20,000.

Massillon: Dec. 1, 300,000; Jan. 1, 1894, ———

Navarre: Dec. 1, 90,000; Jan. 1, 1894, 45,000.

Bolivar: Dec. 1, 30,000; Jan. 1, 1894, ———

Liverpool: Dec. 1, 28,000; Jan. 1, 1894, 13,000.

Copopa: Dec. 1, 81,000; Jan. 1, 1894, 38,000.

KENTUCKY.

Louisville and vicinity: Dec. 1, 1,200,000; Jan. 1, 1894, 800,000.

INDIANA.

Indianapolis and vicinity: 302,000 lbs. Dec. 1, 1894.

Fort Wayne and vicinity: 490,000 lbs. Dec. 1, 1894.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit and other points in the lower peninsula: Dec. 1, 2,000,000 fleeces, 600,000 pulled; Jan. 1, 1894, Detroit alone, 500,000 fleeces, 400,000 pulled.

CHICAGO.

This market at the commencement of the year was quiet and devoid of interest. Lines of carload lots of wool were being held quite firmly; by the 15th of February, however, the general tone of the market was better than it had been for several months, about half a million pounds of territory and pulled were sold at that date. The volume of trade continued to be considerable through the first quarter of the year, though prices were extremely low, especially for pulled wools which undersold territories and fleeces. In May, wools were arriving from all parts of the West, bright unwashed wool was being marketed by the growers at 12@14c.; ⅜ to ¼-blood clothing wools in this market were quoted at 16@17c.; combing, 18½@19c.

The shipment of wools in July were light in comparison with the corresponding period of 1893; for example, in the week ending July 19, 1,213,161 against 2,329,553, 1893. The Debs strike was in the main accountable for the falling off in receipts and shipments.

In October, prices in unwashed clothing fleeces ranged as follows: 11@12c. for fine; 13@14c. for ½ blood; 15@16c. for ⅜ blood and ¼ blood; for delaine, 13@14c., and for combing wools, ½, ⅜ and ¼ blood, 16@17½c.; and coarse and braid, 15@16½c. Territory wools, fine, fine medium and medium, respectively, 9@11c., 11@12c. and 12@14c. Old A and B supers were worth, respectively, 12½@13c. and 18@19c.

Later than the middle of December, bright unwashed was in light supply, and ¼ bloods were bringing 17@18c., and braid 15@16c.

Receipts and shipments during the year were respectively 82.4 per cent and 89.3 per cent larger than in 1893.

STOCK IN CHICAGO DECEMBER, 1894.

	Pounds.
Scoured	119,000
Washed fleece	70,500
Bright unwashed	1,313,000
Demi bright unwashed	460,000
Pulled (machine brushed and av. wools)	1.492,500
Territory and Texas	2,268,000
Odds and ends	25,000
Total	5,748,000

ST. LOUIS.

The year opened with fairly large stocks and an uncertain and irregular demand. Pulled wools were accumulating to a considerable extent, but by the middle of February trade was quite active; the demand seemed quite general, mills and eastern dealers taking quite freely, and this condition held through the first quarter of the year. In May prices had sagged very materially; Wisconsin and Illinois ¼ to ⅜-blood combing and clothing were quoted in this market at 16½@18c.

In July bright wools were being held in the country firmer than selling prices in this market warranted.

In October stocks of bright wools were light; ¼ and ⅜ combing were worth 17½c. In December, prices ranged a little lower; the market was fair to moderate.

STOCK IN ST. LOUIS, DEC. ,1894.

Missouri and Illinois wools	1,162,000
Texas and territory	3,344,000
Pulled wools (all kinds)	506,000
Scoured	60,000
Arkansas and southern	93,000
Odds and ends	165,000
Total	5,330,000

WISCONSIN.

Milwaukee and other points in eastern and central Wisconsin, Dec., 1894, 250,000 lbs.

Madison and vicinity, 125,000 lbs.

AT SOUTHERN POINTS, DEC., 1894.

Nashville, Tenn.,90,000 lbs.

Mobile, Ala., and vicinity, 125,000 lbs.

Atlanta, Ga., 10,000 lbs.

Southern Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama and western Florida, 360,000 lbs.

Galveston, Texas, 70,000 lbs. against 800,000 lbs. in Dec., 1893.

San Antonio, Dec. 3, 1894:

	Pounds.
Twelve months'	60,000
Six to eight months'	169,000
Fall clip	105,000
Total	334,000

San Angelo, Dec. 3, 1894: 25,000 lbs. against 150,000 lbs. Dec., 1893.

MINNESOTA, DEC., 1894.

St. Paul, 100,000 lbs.

Minneapolis, 750,000 lbs.

KANSAS.

Wichita, Dec., 1894: Wool practically all disposed of.

Atchison, wool practically all disposed of.

COLORADO.

Southwestern Colorado, Dec. 1, 1894: About 150,000 lbs.

NEW MEXICO.

Las Vegas, Dec. 1, 1894: About 600,000 lbs.

In southern New Mexico as much more; mostly fall clip.

UTAH.

Ogden and vicinity, Dec. 3, 1894, about 75,000 spring clip.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 3, 1894, about 50,000 lbs.

Southern Utah, Dec. 3, 1894, about 200,000 lbs.

MONTANA, IDAHO AND WYOMING.

Not enough wool stored in these sections to estimate the weight of it.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Sioux Falls, Dec. 4, 150,000 lbs. will cover all left in this vicinity.

OREGON.

PORTLAND, ORE., Dec. 8, 1894.

Editor of the Wool and Cotton Reporter:

As regards unsold wools in this territory, as compared to last year, will say, we estimate the quantity of wools in Oregon on hand Dec. 8th, 1894: Eastern Oregons, about 150,000 lbs.; Valley Oregons, about 10,000 lbs. At this time 1893: Eastern Oregons about 1,250,000 lbs.; Valley Oregons about 100,000 lbs.

Yours truly, B. T.

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco, Dec., 1894, about 3,175,000 lbs.

San Diego, Dec.,1894, about 200,000 lbs.

RECAPITULATION.

STOCKS OF DOMESTIC WOOL IN THE PRINCIPAL MARKETS.

	1895.	1894.	1893.
Boston	39,745,950	39,736,000	35,612,500
New York	5,615,500	15,963,771	13,540,545
Philadelphia	10,698,000	15,349,000	12,772,592
Providence	500,000	495,000	600,000
Norwich	500,000	450,000	500,000
Hartford	2,800,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
Baltimore	750,000	750,000	.....
Wheeling	600,000	300,000	300,000
Louisville	1,200,000	800,000	500,000
Detroit	800,000	900,000	525,000
Albany	500,000	600,000	400,000
Troy	800,000	1,200,000	783,000
Cincinnati	650,000	255,000	150,000
Chicago	5,748,000	4,290,000	2,980,000
Milwaukee & vin'ity	250,000	100,000	300,000
St. Louis	3,660,000	3,810,000	5,000,000
Galveston	70,000	1,750,000	457,593
San Antonio	334,000	515,000	220,000
Oregon & Portland	160,000	1,350,000	150,500
San Francisco	3,175,000	4,000,000	2,218,750
Total	78,556,450	95,087,771	74,968,980

TOTAL SUPPLY.

	1895.	1894.	1893.
In principal markets	93,446,950	95,087,171	79,968,980
Other markets	7,150,000	15,500,000	9,080,000
Concealed supplies of fleeces and pulled wools	11,326,667	23,000,000	11,180,000
Total	111,923,617	133,587,171	100,228,980

IMPORTS.

The imports of wool into the United States for the ten months ending October, 1894, were 44,588,891 lbs.; during the similar term of 1893 106,235,229 lbs. were imported.

FROM MAINE TO CALIFORNIA.

Interesting Letters From Many Wool-Growing Sections.

MAINE.

Wilton, Franklin County, Me., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

The amount of wool on hand in this vicinity is about the same as last year. At this time there are but a few hundred pounds, should say not more than 1,200 to 1,500 pounds. There is not one-fourth the amount produced here now that there was 20 years ago. Very truly,
P. & M.

Skowhegan, Me., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is about one-half as much wool in this vicinity unsold this year as last. Quite a lot has been bought within three weeks in this vicinity.
Respectfully, W. & G.

Rockland, Me., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We will say that last season, at this time, we had about 25,000 lbs. unwashed fleeces, 15,000 lbs. pulled. We now have about 5,000 lbs. fur fleeces, 50,000 lbs. pulled. There are probably about 10,000 lbs. unwashed wool unsold in Knox county.
Yours truly, W.

VERMONT.

Springfield, Vt., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

My estimate would place the amount of wool unsold in this vicinity to be 25 per cent over and above the amount one year ago.
Yours respectfully, G.

Middlebury, Nov. 28, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

I have conferred with the other local wool buyers here, Wright & Twitchell, and it is the unanimous opinion that there is not over half as much wool held about here as there was at this time a year ago. Respectfully yours, M.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Burgettstown, Pa., Nov. 28, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Fully one-half the clip of 1894 is in the hands of the growers as against one-third of the clip last year at this time. Yours, etc., W.

Allegheny, Pa., Dec. 4, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Will say that there are now held in this city 1,500 bags and 225,000 pounds all pulled wool. This amount, I think, differs very little from the amount on hand one year ago.
Yours truly, M.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We should estimate 500,000 lbs. unsold in thi vicinity. C.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 8, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We would say that there is less wool left in this country than there was this time last year. There is very little left in the farmers' hands. We should say not over 5 per cent of the clip is left in the growers' hands, and there are probably 400,000 pounds all told of fine fleece wool held in the Panhandle counties of this vicinity. H.

OHIO.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 18, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Last year, at this date, about 25 per cent of the clip was in farmers' hands unsold. This year, at date, not more than 10 per cent of the clip is in same hands unsold. About 30 per cent less wool is held by local dealers, at date, than same date last year. Very truly, etc., B.

St. Clair, O., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Cotton and Wool Reporter:

The wool of this section is all sold, or as nearly so as usual. There are some small lots still unsold, twenty or thirty fleeces in a place. The industry of this section is destroyed.
Yours truly, S.

Newark, O., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We should say about 15 per cent of the wool remains unsold in the growers' hands in this (Licking) county. Yours truly, R.

Cadiz, O., Dec. 11, 1894.

Editor of the Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is about 8 per cent of our clip unsold, about one-half the amount as compared with this time last year.

Farmers continue to get rid of their sheep at from 20 cents to $1 per head, keeping none but best of their flocks. Our crop of lambs for '95 will exceed that of '94, mostly being bred for mutton. Yours truly, M.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 6, 1894

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

The only lots of wool that we know of in this locality consists of two lots—one of 21,000, the other of 18,000, and both are part of last year's crop, so you see there is comparatively no wool here, while last year there was considerable carried over. Yours, M.

Massillon, O., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

In Massillon, 1894, nearly 200,000; in Navarre, 1893, 30,000; 1894, 60,000; in Bolivar, 1894, 20,000; in Liverpool, 1893, 9,000; 1894, 19,000; in Copopa, 1893, 25,000; 1894, 55,000; and there is or was in Wooster, Wayne county, a large lot, also at Medina, Medina county. Yours truly, S.

Canton, O., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There are now unsold in this vicinity about 230,000 pounds of wool, 200,000 pounds of which are held by one party; the balance is in the hands of producers and small buyers, against about 12,000 pounds held at this time one year ago. Very respectfully, A.

INDIANA

Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 29, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We are the only holders of wool in this immediate vicinity. We are holding all told at the present time, at this particular point, about 325,000 lbs. W.

TENNESSEE.

Murrayville, Tenn., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We think there is more wool than this time last year in our territory, but it is fast going into local mills. Yours, R.

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We beg to say that there were about 60,000 lbs. of wool unsold in our market at this time last year, and we think there are about 60,000 unsold here now.

Very respectfully, G.

GEORGIA.

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

No wool on hand in this section of county except what little I have, about 1,500 pounds.

Yours, M.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is very little wool grown in this vicinity and about 10,000 lbs. would cover amount around here. Respectfully, S.

TEXAS.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 5, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We think the fall clip here this year is about one-half of what it was last year. There is probably less wool here now than there was last year at this time, perhaps one-fourth less, unsold. Yours truly, T. C. F. & Co.

Waco, Tex., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Referring to above, there are no stocks of wool in this section anywhere, that we know of, unsold, Yours truly, G. H. R. & Co.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Fall receipts here have been very small, as the sheep men are going out of business. They cannot raise wool at present prices. There are about 6,000 bags of wool here against about 13,000 bags last year at this time. If these prices continue, there will be very few remaining in the business next year, as they are selling their sheep for mutton as fast as they can.

Yours truly, E. K. & Co.

ILLINOIS.

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 29, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

The wool has been nearly all sold in this section. We do not know of 10,000 pounds in the whole country tributary to this point, probably not more than half what there was one year ago. Yours truly, V.

WISCONSIN.

Waterloo, Wis., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is no wool in dealers' hands here. Many farmers are still holding their wool, two or three clips, but quite a number sold after the passage of the tariff bill. I estimate the wool unsold as about 75 per cent as compared with last year.

Yours truly, J. A. C.

Burlington, Wis., Nov. 29, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

According to my judgment, would put the amount of wool on hand unsold to-day at from 15 to 20 per cent less than last year at this date. In making my estimate, will take Racine, Walworth and Kenosha counties.

Yours respectfully, E. H. W.

Madison, Wis., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There are about 125,000 pounds of wool in farmers' and dealers' hands in this county.

Yours truly, C.

MICHIGAN.

Hudson, Mich., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We are holding less wool than last year—much less held over by growers than for many years. The clip was over 20 per cent short in southern Michigan. Yours, F.

IOWA.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is no wool to speak of held in our section—a few hundred pounds perhaps, not more.

Respectfully yours, D. H. M.

MINNESOTA.

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We are pretty well posted in the holdings of wool in Minnesota, and would say that about the only large lots remaining are about 100,000 lbs. in St. Paul, and 600,000 to 800,000 lbs. in Minneapolis. From the scattering lots (and there are always some) we do not believe over 150,000 lbs. could be collected in the whole of the above territory. This is not one-quarter of what was held last year at this time outside of Minneapolis. Yours truly, M.

MISSOURI.

Chillicothe, Mo., Nov. 30, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

As far as my experience and knowledge goes of the wool business, taking 100 miles north, south, east and west of here, there is no more wool here with the exception of about 25,000 pounds, where last year there must have been 200,000 pounds covering the same territory. Wool has all been sold and is out of growers' hands, held by dealers in St. Louis and Chicago from this part of the country.

Yours truly, A. L.

ARKANSAS.

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

In this section we get very little wool, mostly tub washed; last year we handled about 10,000 pounds and this year about one half that amount. The cause is most farmers sold their sheep to butchers and shipped them to Missouri and Kansas, no doubt to be slaughtered. We are getting less every year and what comes in is from Indiana, Texas and around here, about 75 miles the farthest Yours truly, H.

Eureka Springs, Ark., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There are not five thousand pounds of wool handled in this county, and hardly any on hand now. Yours, H.

KANSAS.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

In this section the wool is nearly all disposed, except about 3,000 lbs. Respectfully, L.

Atchison, Kan., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

No wool for sale here at all. The same as last year. Yours respectfully,

H. M. H. & Co.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 4, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

One hundred twenty five thousand pounds or 150,000 pounds will cover all the old wools left in this vicinity. Perhaps not more than one-half this amount was on hand in this district at this season last year. P.

MONTANA.

Choteau, Mont., Dec. 8, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is no wool stored here in Montana, as all our wool is shipped to eastern markets soon after shearing, and is now either sold or in the hands of commission merchants.

Yours, etc., C.

ARIZONA.

Canon Diablo, Ariz., Dec. 4, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There are no quantities of wool unsold in this county. Large shipments were consigned to eastern houses last season.

Yours respectfully, F. W. V.

COLORADO.

Trinidad, Colo., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

In this county (Las Animas) there is no wool held except possibly a few cars by Primrose Wool Co. (scourers), Trinidad. In southwestern Colorado and northwest New Mexico there is possibly 100,000 pounds on hand but not as much as last December. In central and southern New Mexico there is possibly 2,000,000 lbs. on hand, nearly all fall clip.

Yours truly, K. & N.

UTAH.

Brigham City, Utah, Dec. 7, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

There is no fleece wool left here this year unsold. Most of the wool has been shipped on consignment and there is considerable in the hands of commission houses at Boston and St. Louis. Last year there was about 100,000 pounds left over in this county. Yours truly, H.

NEW MEXICO.

Santa Fe, N. M., Dec. 1, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

Wool in this section is pretty thoroughly sold up. This time last year fully 75 per cent of the fall clip was still in growers' hands.

Respectfully yours, E. J. M.

CALIFORNIA.

Ukeah, Cal., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor Wool and Cotton Reporter:

All wool around this vicinity is sold.

A. M. & Co.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We find on looking over the books that we have in our warehouse at the date 155,610 pounds. None at this date last year. The wool belongs to the growers, who are holding it.

Yours truly, S.

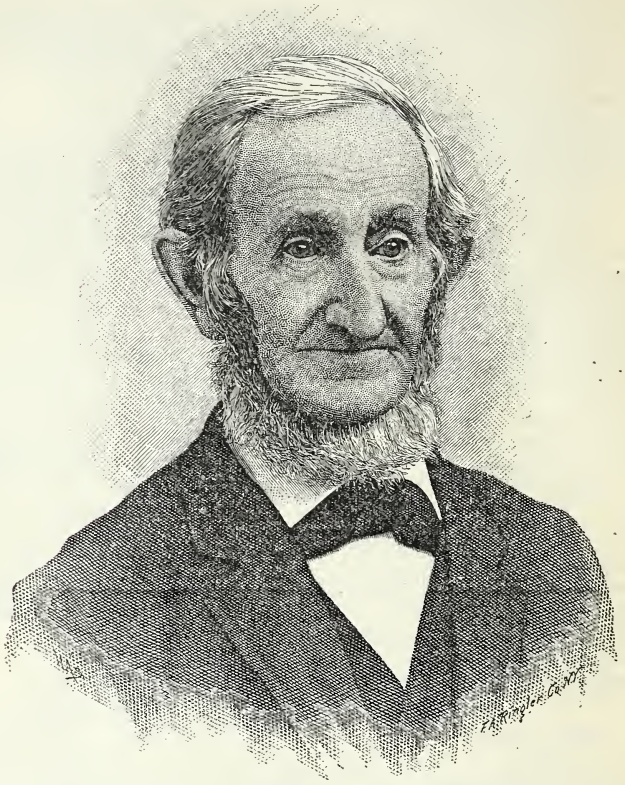
OREGON.

Hepner, Oregon, Dec. 3, 1894.

Editor of Wool and Cotton Reporter:

We have no wool on hand now, all having been sold and shipped, leaving none in our section of the country. This time last year it was the same, none on hand or in the country.

Yours truly, M.



James S. McNary

SEVENTY YEARS A SHEPHERD.

James S. McNary, father of the National Delaine Association, a resident of Washington county, Pa., and now in the 85th year of his age, has spent 70 years as an active shepherd. When quite a small boy he went with his father to purchase the foundation of his present flock from among the first Merinos that crossed the Allegheny mountains. To the present time he is zealous in the interests of his flock. All these years he has scrupulously selected his breeding animals after his own ideal of what constituted a profitable flock of Merinos.

He has been rewarded by a flock that for quantity and quality is unsurpassed, the fleece from one of his breeding rams winning the first premium for delaine wool at the great Chicago Exposition and World's Fair, 1894.

A MASSACHUSETTS SHEEP FARM.

How to Raise Early Lambs for the Boston Market.

The farm of Mr. N. I. Bowditch, in Framingham, may easily be classed as a representative of the best sheep farms of the state. It has a great deal of dry, rolling pasture land, covered with small brush, and is especially adapted to sheep grazing. His lower lands are remarkably fertile, and have included 72 acres in corn alone this year. No roots are raised for sheep feeding, grain and shorts being used instead; Mr. Bowditch has found that the latter foods can be raised at less cost and with less skilled farm labor, and be fed at a greater profit.

One great secret in sheep raising is in the feeding, especially at breeding and lambing periods. Ordinarily, on Mr. Bowditch's farm, the sheep are used to break out his hill brush land, and at this time they browse largely on twigs, leaves and grass so obtained, and are also fed cotton-seed meal in considerable quantities. This meal is excellent for making pasturage, but must be discontinued at breeding time as it injures the udders. Mr. Bowditch, in addition to his sheep, keeps a large number of fine milch cows, which are turned into new pasturage as fast as rendered available by the sheep. In thus using his sheep for the final breaking out and manuring of pasturage, a new profit is figured on the sheep which is not enjoyed by many sheep farms, but would in many places, in itself, pay for the introduction of a flock. Some shorts are fed while in pasture, but for the most part the sheep thrive on pasturage alone. Running water is provided in all the pastures.

THE FAVORITE BREEDS.

There are over 300 grade ewes at Millwood—the name of Mr. Bowditch's farm—used for breeding purposes. The greater number of these are well-bred Southdown (and other Down breeds) which are usually bought from Vermont breeders as fast as the old stock runs out. Mr. Bowditch buys only well-bred stock, and while he makes a specialty of breeding lambs for market purposes, he is positive in his statement that only rams of known pure strains should be used. Hampshire Down rams are used exclusively for breeding purposes, the idea being that a stronger cross is thus obtained; the Hampshire is a strong, solidly-built animal, with a much heavier carcass and thicker fleece than the Southdown, but the cross retains the essential strength and weight of the father, with the early maturity which is the mark of the smaller Southdowns, a lamb being made two weeks quicker by reason of this crossing.

NO "HIT OR MISS" POLICY.

An essential necessary for success in sheep raising, even though it be for market purposes, is that the ram should be a registered thoroughbred. A thorough-bred will always produce his like. The grade ram, however, cannot be depended upon, and it is this "hit or miss" policy which is the cause of such disastrous results among many of our small sheep raisers. Success cannot be assured when this elementary fact is neglected; well-bred rams are at present so cheap that the matter of price cannot be pleaded as an excuse, nor could it be at any time, for a thoroughbred would pay for himself in one season.

The Hampshire rams two years old weigh from 225 to 325 pounds, and

shear on an average eight pounds of wool, some as high as 16 pounds. Ewes of the same breed weigh from 150 to 200 pounds.

All ewes are served in September and none later than the first week in October. Special attention is given to feeding at this time, both rams and ewes being given more grain and shorts, placing less dependence on pasturage.

It is essential that both ram and ewe should be in prime condition at this time; healthy lambs can only be obtained from well-conditioned parents. Three rams will serve 200 ewes. One ram is turned in for twelve hours with the sheep and is not turned in again for twenty-four hours, which gives him a chance to feed up well. Lambs are dropped in December, January, and none later than February. The spring lamb business seems fraught with many difficulties to the ordinary breeder, but according to Mr. Bowditch's methods, it consists mainly in a dry, well-ventilated barn, pure running water, and plenty of room for the sheep to exercise. A short description of Mr. Bowditch's sheep barn may not be amiss at this point.

SHEEP BARN.

The barn is placed at quite a little elevation above the surrounding land, is on dry gravelly soil, well drained and partly protected from north winds by a small grove. It is a story and a half in height with basement. The shorts, grain, etc., fed to sheep is kept in the upper part of barn, while the basement is given up entirely to the sheep. This basement is walled closely on two sides, is boarded tightly at one end, and on the other side which faces the south, has large windows, and underneath, doors which can be opened either by sliding up, or swinging in. It is twelve feet from floor to rafters, and is ventilated by large flues, running to the roof. The building is about 45 ft. wide, and is cut up into pens 36 ft. x 24 ft.; each pen has a tub of running water in its centre, and around three sides has fodder racks, opening at the bottom into troughs which are about a foot from the floor. In one corner of the large pens there is a space 10 ft. square enclosed by a movable fence, the pickets of which are sufficiently separated to allow the young lambs to pass through and exclude the mothers. The lambs are fed in this space, and it also affords them protection. Adjacent to the large pens there are a row of smaller ones running the width of the building. These are five feet long and five feet wide, with separate racks and troughs for feeding. These pens are used for the ewes, and their lambs as soon as dropped. Each of the larger pens has a separate yard, 60x30, which affords the sheep all the necessary exercise, is dry, and has a southern exposure.

The barn is not kept tightly closed, even in the coldest winter days, unless there be young lambs within; and even then the swing doors are not closed unless the temperature falls below zero. There is plenty of fresh air at all times; the floors are kept dry, and free from manure. These essentials cared for, with plenty of exercise added, and the difficulties of wintering sheep will be reduced to the minimum. Fresh air and exercise are as necessary to sheep as to man, and tight barns and foul floors are the most common causes of trouble in wintering sheep, and are prolific sources of disease.

LAMBING PERIOD.

As lambing time approaches, the sheep are fed rich milk-producing foods, oats and shorts being used at Millwood. The sheep are carefully watched, and as soon as the lambs are dropped are placed in the small pens. Those dropped during the night are placed in the pens in the morning with the idea of finding whether the sheep gives milk, and owns the lamb. Lambs are allowed to run 24 hours after birth, and experience no evil results in ordinary winter weather. They are permitted to run with the sheep, and are fed a mixture of two parts corn meal to one of old process linseed-oil meal; rowan is also kept in the racks. He has found it impossible to feed lambs on cob meal or cotton seed, as the former kills them and the latter produces fits, which result in death in a short time.

Lambs for the market are killed as early as 28 days after birth, and have dressed 26 pounds. The average number, however, are killed when 40 days old, and will dress from 26 lbs. to 30 lbs., some weighing as high as 33 lbs. All of the grade lambs are marketed before April 1. Rams that are to be sold for early market are never castrated, as this puts them back two weeks. In the raising of such early maturing lambs the wool is of secondary consideration, the lambs being marketed before strength goes into the fleece.

Thoroughbreds are ready to ship May 1, at which time they will weigh from 90 to 100 lbs. These lambs are allowed to run as soon as pastures are ready, and in addition are given shorts. If not sold before, they are weaned by June 1.

Mr. Bowditch's sheep have been remarkably free from disease, and it is undoubtedly due to the uniform care given the flock at all times. Only one year has foot rot appeared in his flock, and singularly that year was remarkably dry. The sheep affected were separated from the flock, their hoofs pared and burnt out with butter of antimony; this proved a very efficacious remedy, and the sheep have never since been troubled with this disease. Thoroughbred rams and ewes from Mr. Bowditch's farm are to be found in many parts of the United States. He has done much to improve the pure bred Hampshire Downs.

IN-AND-IN BREEDING.

While the bad effects of in-and-in breeding, or the continuous breeding of sheep of the same blood, are not so bad as has been generally supposed, it is well known to have the effect of producing a delicate constitution and will often bring deformed and inferior stock, yet many of our noted stock rams will be found to be closely related. I would, therefore, recommend a cross of family or strain, which will generally produce a stronger nature in the offspring and an earlier development.

Especial attention should be given to rams which should be of the very best type and in no way lacking in vitality, as the male, whether crossbred or of the same strain as the ewe, will always show the greater effect upon the offspring.

A strong constitution in the male parent is an indispensable characteristic, it being the object to produce a strong lamb, which will be able to maintain itself without the attention of the shepherd and capable of following the ewe immediately after birth, when it becomes necessary to change the location of the flock, which is often necessary among western ranchmen. The ewes must likewise be of a strong nature, including as many good qualities as can be combined in one animal. These qualities would vary so much between sheep bred for wool and those bred for mutton that it would be useless to mention them here; besides, the shepherd should be able, from his own resources, to detect the points relative to these two divisions.

SOUTH DAKOTA SHEEP.

A Very Interesting Letter from an Experienced Flockmaster.

WOLSEY, S. D., Oct. 9, 1894.

I came very nigh writing you two or three times concerning these abandoned farms, as I have been somewhat familiar with the circumstances for over a year, and have carefully read anything which came into my hands concerning them, and probably would have written you long before now if the distance had not been so far for me to move.

I am fast closing out my property here. We had decided, after being deprived of fruit for 11 years, that when we located again it would be where fruit grows. Please inform us what varieties grow on those New England farms, if any. I know nothing except as I have read about the New England states. I am familiar with the products and climate of the Middle and Western states, as I have purchased sheep in the most of them, and am probably better known by sheep men in those states than any man of my age, as I have always made it a rule, when within 50 or 100 miles of any prominent sheep man, to go and see him and look his stock over, which has given me a pretty good idea of the methods and different conditions of the sheep industry in most of the states. Ten degrees below zero would not scare a South Dakota man, when the thermometer every winter reaches 20 to

FORTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO.

The parties whom I saw, who lived in about the same latitude in Vermont and New Hampshire, say it gets much colder there than that, but neither of them knew much about Maine. I suppose it is very hilly. Is the climate milder near the seacoast than farther back? What is the nature of your soil and can good clover be raised? I have had some experience, when a boy, with worn-out lands in south Michigan, as my father moved from western New York and purchased such a farm there, and when we sold it 11 years ago and came to South Dakota, it was up in good shape. If good clover can be raised there, it ought to be readily improved with clover and sheep, the two best reclaimers of worn-out soil that I know of.

Next comes corn. I was somewhat surprised to read in your paper the average yield per acre in Maine, as I did not suppose it would grow there. To tell you the truth I am not practical at all in the growing of roots, as that crop here in South Dakota is an entire failure. I have tried hard to grow them here for the last three years for my sheep, but without any success. They cannot be grown here, only occasionally wet years. All crops have been nearly an entire failure for the last two years, and my best judgment, after 11 years' residence here, is that all this section of

SOUTH DAKOTA IS A FAILURE,

as far as a farming country is concerned. Many of our best farmers are leaving the state this fall, scattering to nearly every state in the Union.

In speaking of South Dakota you must remember that it is as large as all the New England states, if I remember correctly, and to properly classify it, it should be divided into four sections. The extreme east part of the state, and all of the southeast portion, is a good, fair farming country, where some fruit can be raised, and farmers as a rule are prosperous. Then comes the southwest portion of the state, heavily timbered, and a mountainous and mining country; then comes that portion called the Bad

Lands, lying west of the Missouri river, used only as a stock country, having free range. Then comes the northwestern portion, east of the Missouri, in which I live, which is called a farming and stock country. Here we have a herd law—every one is obliged to take care of his stock.

Our soil is all that could be asked for, but we do not have enough rain to make agriculture profitable. We have already lost three-quarters of our farmers, and nine out of ten who remain are slowly going behind. Unless it is reclaimed by irrigation, or Divine Providence furnishes more water, it will eventually be occupied as a stock range, the same as the Bad Lands west of the Missouri. I have written this lengthy description so as to give you a fair idea of the country. I have firmly decided that this is no place to raise thoroughbred sheep, as we cannot grow the proper feed to feed them so they will be early maturing. I attempted to establish a thoroughbred flock and handle them on the same plan as in the eastern states, but am thoroughly disgusted with the business here.

SNOW AND WINTER FEED.

In the winter of 1893 wintered 1,000 head; winter of 1892 wintered 1,000 head of common and thoroughbred sheep, also fattened 1,000 head for Chicago market; fed mostly wheat screenings, which cost nine dollars per ton here. Winter of 1891 wintered from 300 to 800 head. During winters of 1889, 1890 and 1891 was buying and selling sheep all the time; sometimes the flock would number 1,000 to 1,500 head, sometimes not over 100 head.

My father was extensively engaged in the Merino sheep business in south Michigan. His flock ranged from 300 to 500 head. My brother and myself principally had the care of them, so, as you might say, I was raised in the sheep pen. They are my favorite stock. Thermometer falls as low as 20 to 40 degrees below zero. In this section snow generally commences to fall between November 1st and January 1st—one year not enough to hinder stock from feeding until January 19; it is not generally over three or four inches deep on the ground. It piles up by the wind, wherever there is anything to stop it from one to eight feet high.

It is hard to tell what the average fall is, but sheep in this section are usually fed hay about three months.

As soon as snow is off in the spring, from March 1 to April 1, they are able to procure a living on the old grasses, but do not put on any flesh until about May 1. Here the country is a level plateau. Across the river there is not so much snow. It is a hilly country and wind usually will blow off the snow from some portion of the hill, so that stock can get a living; they do not feed much hay except in very severe storms, but nearly all put up hay as a safeguard. Sheep men calculate on 25 tons of hay here for 100 head common sheep; on the west side, 10 tons for 100 sheep.

GOOD TIME TO BUY SHEEP.

Our flocks here are all small, ranging from 100 to 500 head. Nearly all our sheep men here farm "to their sorrow," but unless there is a change, the most of them will stop soon. The great depreciation in prices of wool and mutton the last two years, together with the severe drouths, have dealt the industry a hard blow. Wool sold from 6 to 9 cents per pound here this year; extra good fat lambs 2 to 2½ cents per pound. Am sorry to say that a great many are discouraged and selling their sheep for what they can get, who could hold on. Others less fortunate, who purchased their sheep only three or four years ago upon time when prices of sheep were good, are forced to sell to meet their obligations.

It is a sad mistake, for as sure as the sun will rise to-morrow morning, sheep will again be good paying property in less than three years, and, in fact, where carefully handled, now pay as well as any other agricultural product. There was certainly never a more favorable time for investment in sheep than now.

As we very seldom have any rain here during the winter, and the majority of our people have limited means, the shelter is generally made

cheaply, either hay or straw covering and board sides, so as to keep out the snow, entirely enclosed on all sides.

BUILDINGS AND SHELTER.

Those who are in more comfortable circumstances generally have shingle roofs and tight 8-foot board fence yards, so as to break the wind. The majority of flock owners feed rough feed in the yards and no grain, using the sheds for sleeping room and extremely stormy weather for common sheep. We calculate on 6 to 8 square feet for each sheep, but they do a little better with more room, and if winter lambs or thoroughbreds are to be raised, the space ought to be doubled. The most of the lambs are dropped in May, but a few who sell early lambs to butchers and breeders of thoroughbreds, have their lambs dropped in March and April. These men all feed grain to ewes and lambs as soon as they will eat bran mixed with heavier feed. Either corn meal, oats or screenings generally makes this ration, giving such ewes, after lambing, about all they will eat. May lambs are often fed grain the following winter, and in every case where owner can, they are fed usually not to exceed one pound per head of screenings divided into two even feeds and corn or oats, not more than one-half or two-thirds of a pound per day per head. One of our best sheep farms which we have used, and the most convenient to feed the sheep was a fair-sized hay barn in the center and two shingle room sheds 24 feet wide and 200 feet long, one on each end of the barn, so hay can be fed from barn in sheds in all stormy weather; in front of barn and sheds is tight board fence, 8 feet high, for feed yard, and to give exercise, which is one of the most important things in pregnant ewes, and especially in high bred and fed ewes, or the lamb crop will be very disappointing.

ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT.

Now the handling of sheep on the west side of the river, on the range, is altogether different. Their flocks range from 1,000 to 5,000 head. These men do no farming as the country is rough and broken and some timber along the streams. They usually range their sheep all winter, keeping them in bands of 1,000 to 2,500 in a band, and a man herds them days. Nights they are gathered into a corrall, either in the protection of the timber or some hill where there have been open sheds built with hay roofs. They are not obliged to have closed sheds like we do here, and occasionally a man corralls in a sheltered piece of timber all winter, without any sheds. None of these men feed any grain except to cull ewes, rams and small lambs. During the summer they never feed around their winter camps. These parties are doing well in spite of low prices.

If you find anything interesting in this, and wish, I will later give you a full and complete description of what is called range lambing. They have got the matter right down to a science, and many of the careful men raise 90 to 95 per cent of the lambs dropped, instead of 50, as generally supposed by eastern breeders. It seems to me that one good reliable boy or man, except, say, right in the lambing, shearing and haying, ought to be able to handle 1,000 sheep in the eastern states. Of course I know root-growing takes lots of work.

I do not quite clearly understand your future plans; you say, if I am not mistaken, you will raise May lambs principally, and kill in January or February on the farms. Where do you expect to market these lambs, and at what prices? Where is your market for fat sheep?

EARLY LAMBS IN THE WEST.

I am familiar with the customs of the Chicago, Buffalo and western live-stock markets, but eastern markets and methods are all Dutch to me.

On one of my trips west after sheep, in the spring of 1891, I visited Rawlin Sherman's farm, 40 miles from Denver. He had 400 or 500 good large grade ewes bred to Shropshire rams. The lambs were dropped about the middle of February. He was killing them then about March 1st, and

sending them to Denver. [Our correspondent must be mistaken in one of his dates, as he can hardly mean that the lambs were being butchered when two weeks old.—ED.] The lambs hog-dressed, which is simply entrails taken out, were averaging twenty pounds. He was getting 25 cents per pound for them, and he told me he was raising 150 per cent of lambs from the ewes, so you can see about what his ewes were yielding him—about $7.50 per head. Of course they had to be well fed and taken care of. I also know that this same feature of the industry is carried on in West Virginia for the Philadelphia market.

May lambs well fattened, sold on the Chicrgo market January or February, would only bring 5 to 6 cents per pound, live weight.

Never truer words were printed than those you print in your "Shepherd's Year Book," on last page—"A successful breeder of pure bred stock must be born and not made."

WILL SELL THIS STOCK CHEAP.

The very reason I am now looking for a position is because I see that through my loss here in making a wrong location it will so cripple me that I will not have means to go to the front rank, and unless a pure bred breeder can have as good as any, he might better have grade stock. I shall have about a car load of almost entirely pure bred sheep. There are 5 imported Shrop ewes, 10 Michigan-bred Shrops, 8 Dakota yearling Shropshire ewes, 20 Dakota Shropshire ewe lambs, very nice, 1 imported Shrop ram, 1 imported Southdown ram, 18 thoroughbred Southdown ewes, 14 or 15 ewe and ram Southdown lambs, extra good ones, 10 choice Shrop ram lambs, and 22 choice grade Shropshire and Southdown ewes, yearling, and 2-year olds.

Now, owing to the extreme hard times, I cannot sell these here for one-third they are worth. I will sell these, the full bloods, right straight through for $6 a head, the grades $3. All the sheep are young; none over 4 years old, except 3 or 4 Southdown ewes. I also have 15 thoroughbred Angora goats, which are nice, that I hate to part with entirely; quite a number of the lambs will weigh 100 pounds each. We cannot sell so we can live by it; it will cost us $125 or $140 a car for household goods, car of sheep about $80, which would not be over $1 a head. Now, in reference to wages. Could I get upon trial for one year $60 a month, and furnish two cows, garden and wood; we will board one man or boy a year, another man three or four months if necessary, and if much more help is required we shall be allowed a low price for board. I can earn that or more. I can furnish references from the best breeders in the United States, and can get a position as soon as any of them have an opening for me. Do we understand that the school three miles distant is the nearest to the farm? It would be rather far for our young children to go to school?

COST OF BUILDINGS.

If your buildings or new buildings which you may erect are well protected by timber, very simple and cheap shelter will do. If snow does not blow badly there, sheds open to the south or east is all that is necessary; the directions of your winds will somewhat control this. In South Michigan, where we had snow a foot deep or more, most of winter sheds were always open on one side, and many of them just cheap board roofs. Thermometer there went as low as 18 degrees below zero. If your rains last from three to four days at a time, you will have to have good roofs; if only a few hours like ours, by the time the hay roof commences leaking badly the storm is usually over out doors, and hay roofs will do. Geo. Allen & Sons are among our most successful showmen of Shropshires. Their buildings are of the cheapest and simplest kind; in fact, I cannot understand how he handles his sheep in them. I was very much surprised to see them upon my visit to his place two years ago this winter. One more question about eastern sheep husbandry. Are you obliged to get up all the sheep every night on account of dogs? SOUTH DAKOTA.

A VERMONT SHEEP FARM.

Method of Breeding and Caring for Merino Flocks in the Green Mountain State.

[From Wool and Cotton Reporter, September 13, 1894.]

In attempting to give you a description of the breeding and care of sheep in Vermont, I have chosen a flock of pure Spanish Merinos as an example, one of the "crack" flocks of Addison county, which section of our state enjoys a reputation that is world-wide for its high-bred sheep. Again the Merinos are pre-eminent, they out-number all other breeds in Vermont, and have earned their owners ten times more money than any other sheep. They are found to be better suited to our rough, hilly lands, than the coarse wooled or mutton breeds.

There were in Vermont, before the depression in sheep and wool, about 320,000 sheep, the value of which was more than $1,500,000. But since 1891, our flocks have gradually been decreasing, primarily, because of the limited demand for sheep from Texas, Montana and other great western pastoral states and territories; and, secondarily, because of the steadily declining values for both sheep and wool throughout the world.

VERMONT'S REPUTATION.

It may not be known to some of the readers of the REPORTER, that to the little state of Vermont belongs a larger measure of praise for the improvement of fine wool sheep in America, than to any other state in the Union. Merino breeders everywhere will admit this. Thousands of flocks in the states of New York, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Texas and elsewhere, trace directly back to the flocks of the Green Mountain state.

It will be seen then that the aim of the Vermont Merino breeder has always been to produce stud sheep—animals suited to the improvement of the poorly bred flocks on western farms and ranches. To attain this object, we have always found it necessary to give our flocks the best of care and the closest attention. For more than sixty years we have bred the Merino more scientifically than any other shepherds in the world, and the result has been an almost perfect animal. Of course having supplied the breeders of Ohio, Michigan and New York with thousands of our best sheep, they too, during the past ten years, have been competitors of Vermont in the sale of stud sheep farther west, and to this feature of the situation alone is due, in a large proportion, the unprofitableness of sheep husbandry in Vermont during the past eight years. Again, our shepherds committed a great mistake in breeding for larger quantities of wrinkles and grease, thereby sacrificing constitution and size for weight of fleece. Of late years the call has been for a plainer-bodied, smoother, larger animal, one producing not only a good fleece of wool, but possessing mutton carcass as well. This style of animal, Vermont breeders found themselves unable to furnish in any considerable numbers, and the result has been a great decline in the condition and number of our flocks. There are, however, a few well-known sheep men who are breeding to suit the times, and are making money, as any farmer always can from sheep, provided he studies the demands of the market and gives them the care they require.

METHOD OF BREEDING.

I am a breeder of Vermont Merinos of more than forty years' experience, and have suffered from all the "downs" and profited from all the "ups" of the fine wool sheep industry. My flock numbers 158 pure-bred animals, direct descendants of the Hammond, Rich, Stickney, Buswell and Clark families. Many of my ewes are sired by such famous stud rams as "Banker," "Centennial," "Stick-

ney's 146," "Moses," "Bismarck," etc., all noted show ring, prize winning animals.

In breeding I serve my ewes to the ram in November, that my lambs may arrive the following April, but many Vermont breeders, whose barns are even warmer than mine, breed their ewes in October. It is safe to say, however, that 80 per cent of our Merinos are bred in November and December, the reason for this early breeding being the desire to obtain early lambs, which can be grown to a size suitable to the autumn sheep trade.

AGE WHEN EWES ARE BRED.

I never breed my young ewes until they are at least 18 months old, and I would not advise any of my brother sheep breeders to allow their ewes to be coupled earlier. If they are bred too young their growth and development is immediately retarded, and they never attain their full size. It is often the case, too, that they cannot furnish sufficient nourishment for the young lamb and will frequently disown it, thus causing the flock-master no end of trouble and care.

My stock rams are always taken from the pasture and placed in their pens in the barn, or shed, at least two weeks before I intend to use them, and are given the best of hay and a mixture of corn and oats twice daily—a quart to each ram; they also have plenty of running water. My breeding ewes are driven to the barn every night during the coupling season, and every morning a ram, less valuable than my stock rams, is turned in among them and carefully watched. This is the far better plan to pursue, for by so doing the strength of the stud ram is greatly saved. I do not give stock rams when in use green feed, except it be a little sliced pumpkin, carrots, turnips, or potatoes, once each day.

THE LAMBING PERIOD.

As the period approaches when the lambs are due, I feed my breeding ewes chopped carrots, turnips or potatoes with oats, sprinkling on a liberal supply of ground feed or corn meal, each morning. I allow them to run in the yards outside my barn for at least five hours every pleasant day. I consider it an absolute necessity that ewes with lamb be given a proper amount of out-door exercise, and such a variety of food as will conduce to create a flow of milk. All of my sheep have pure running water in abundance, and this, too, I consider one of the prime necessities to preserving the healthy condition of the flock.

As soon as the young lambs are dropped, I place the lamb and its mother in a pen apart from the flock, and as fast as the other lambs make their appearance, they and their mothers are likewise separated from the main flock. By so doing, the lambs are not trodden under foot; and again, the mothers may be given, more conveniently, the extra care and attention which they require. Among our Merino flocks there has been, during recent years, considerable trouble experienced in raising lambs, many of the ewes, the young ones in particular, failing to supply sufficient nourishment. The only remedy is feeding the ewes a plentiful amount of milk-producing food supplemented with cow's milk for the lambs.

WEANING THE LAMBS.

If my lambs are dropped in the month of April, I wean them about September 1. I consider it better for both the ewes and lambs to be separated at that time. I turn my lambs into my meadows where there is plenty of fresh feed, and grain them every night, a pint of oats and corn mixed to each lamb. I never allow my lambs, yearling ewes or rams to remain out from shelter during rain-storms, as the wet weather injures the appearance and handling of the fleece, and certainly does the animal no good.

CARE OF SHEEP FOR SALE AND SHOW.

We Vermont Merino breeders never castrate our ram lambs, but fit those which we do not desire to keep for our own use for sale to the buyers for the Texas, Montana and other western trade. These rams we commence to feed grain and give extra care as early as July 1. Our yearling ewes, if we desire to sell them, are likewise given similar attention during the summer and autumn months.

Vermont flocks are seldom affected with disease. The foot rot causes, perhaps, the greatest trouble, but with ordinary care it can be quickly cured by

carefully paring the hoof and applying a solution of blue vitriol and urine daily. The affected animals I always remove from the flock and isolate them in some dry pasture. I have experienced only slight trouble with grub in the head, ticks or other parasites, and other Vermont breeders have lost but few sheep from these diseases.

Most of our Merino sheep breeders shear early, as early as April, and a few, who have warm barns, the last weeks of March. Our public shearings have always been held in April, but during the past few years they have been discontinued. My flock averages 13¾ pounds per head of greasy wool. Several of my stock rams shear to exceed 25 pounds, one of them 36 pounds and 8 ounces, another 30 pounds, and another 28 pounds. My two-year-old ewes shear from 14 to 18 pounds. The practice of washing sheep in Vermont has become almost obsolete, sheep men having concluded that buyers do not allow enough difference between the washed and the unwashed wool to repay one for the extra trouble and expense of washing. Most of our wool grades fine unwashed, and sells at from 10 to 14 cents, according to condition.

AN ADDISON COUNTY FARM.

My farm is located in Addison county, Vermont, in the Otter Creek valley, and consists of 160 acres, principally clay land, and very productive. Merinos appear to be particularly adapted to our clay lands, and thrive decidedly better on the clay pastures than on the loam or sandy lands. In my meadows I raise alsike clover mixed with timothy, as a feed for my flock, and find it well suited to their requirements. I also raise peas and oats (sown together) which makes a very excellent and nutritious grain. I also raise, at least, one hundred bushels of carrots, turnips and beets for my sheep. I prefer carrots, although much more labor is required to produce them than turnips.

In the foregoing, I have endeavored to give you as clearly and as concisely as possible some facts regarding the breeding and care of Merinos in Vermont. There are still several points which I have not covered, but I have perhaps said enough to furnish the readers of the REPORTER an idea of pastoral life in the Green Mountain state. I have great faith in sheep, free wool or no free wool, and I believe that in the future, as in the past, sheep will continue to prove the most profitable domestic animal a Vermont farmer can raise. They will enrich his farm, they will clear out the waste places, they will reclaim abandoned fields. Verily their hoof is golden. Yours truly, MERINO.

WASCO COUNTY, OREGON.

Names of Sheep Owners.

T. H. McGreer, Antelope	1,100	J. S. Fermerd, Antelope	2,000
G. Smidth, Antelope	3,000	F. Malone, Antelope	6,200
M. A. McClenan, Antelope	1,800	George Slocum, Antelope	2,000
K. McClenan, Antelope	4,000	Wm. Wiley, Antelope	3,000
H. Wagerly, Bake Oven	1,200	G. Cochran, Antelope	2,000
R. R. Hinton, Bake Oven	4,000	Gilhousen Bros., The Dalles	2,500
B. Spage, Bake Oven	1,700	A. Roberts, The Dalles	3,100
I. Damrimple, Bake Oven	3,400	E. Griffin, The Dalles	2,500
W. Odell, Bake Oven	2,500	T. Harris, The Dalles	2,400
D. J. Cooper, The Dalles	800	A. Sacks, The Dalles	2,400
W. H. Odell, The Dalles	1,600	J. Jackson, Sherors Bridge	1,500
J. Southwell, The Dalles	1,600	John M. Davis, Sherors Bridge	1,200
G. B. Martin, The Dalles	2,000	H. Wells, Sherors Bridge	9,400
Ed. Doyle, The Dalles	3,700	Jones & Jordan, Sherors Bridge	3,900
Tygh Valley & Live St. Co., The Dalles	5,000	Young & Son, Bake Oven	10,200
Joe Abbott, The Dalles	4,000	C. P. Urin, Cross Keys	3,200
I. I. Bint, The Dalles	6,300	H. Smith, Cross Keys	2,000
Morrison, The Dalles	2,800	H. W. Cook, Ridgeway	1,200
M. M. Mosier, Mosier	1,700	H. C. Rooper, Ridgeway	4,600
Louder Bros., Bake Oven	2,000	C. B. Durbin, Antelope	3,000
A. W. Farger, Nansene	1,600	C. Lavine, Antelope	2,800
A. W. Farger, Nansene	1,100	C. B. Don, Antelope	2,700
Kelsay & Kelsay, Kent	6,200	A. M. Kelsay, The Dalles	3,000
Barsel, Bake Oven	4,200	P. Walsh, Kent	2,100
Wm. Kelsay & Son, Antelope	4,000	Allan Grant, Antelope	3,000
D. & I. McLenon, Antelope	3,800	L. B. Megs, Antelope	4,600
J. McAndy, Antelope	1,600	C. Cambell, Bake Oven	1,600
B. A. McGreer, Antelope	3,500	S. Houser, Bake Oven	2,600
John Grant, Antelope	3,000	M. Tompson, Bake Oven	1,150
J. A. McAndy, Antelope	3,000	Kohler & Kohler, Bake Oven	6,200
Little & McRay, Antelope	2,100	Prineville L'd & Live St'k Co., Bake Oven	12,000
Z. Taylor, Antelope	2,000	J. Shearor, Sherors' Bridge	7,000

WHAT PART WILL SHEEP PLAY

In the Future Development of the United States.

BLACKSTONE, VA., July 18, 1894.

Very many unoccupied farms and large tracts of worn-out land in this portion of Virginia, south of Richmond and throughout a large area, extending both easterly and westerly along the lines of the Norfolk & Western and Atlantic & Danville railways, can be purchased at $2 to $5 per acre. Though temporarily exhausted, the land is capable of prompt improvement, and will respond liberally to the application of fertilizers. It is free from the rocks which are so prominent a feature of New England abandoned farms, and is easy to work except for the trees and bushes which must often be removed. This locality affords grand opportunities for sheep husbandry, were it not for the affection for worthless curs and unprofitable fox hunts that still constitute a characteristic of our Virginia friends.

HERDING IN THE SOUTH.

Under these circumstances it is suggested that sheep herding might be profitably practised here in the same manner as in the states and territories west of the Mississippi river. Housing of sheep here is unnecessary at any season of the year. Ploughing may be done throughout the months of January and February. The lambs are usually dropped in December and January, and are ready for market in April and May; and the sheep will find good pasturage throughout the year, except when the ground is covered with snow. A successful farmer here, who keeps fifty or sixty sheep, thought ten tons of hay would be enough to save for 1,000 sheep during the year. In Maine it is necessary to save 200 tons of hay to carrry 1,000 sheep through the six months of housing time.

Such is the respect still entertained for hunting and for dogs in Virginia that the man who should surround his sheep pasture with a dog-proof fence would speedily find it destroyed in places sufficient to admit all the canine enemies of his flocks. The hunter who came to the fence in the ardor of pursuit after a fox or a hare would speedily make an opening, and though his action would be theoretically illegal, yet it would be sustained by neighborhood opinion, and the land owner's only defence would consist in organizing a watch along all the boundaries of his domain. Hence, I say the solution of the problem seems to lie in herding sheep in bands of 1,000 to 3,000, as is done in the West.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PROFIT.

A tract of 4,000 acres of "worn-out" land would support 1,000 to 2,000 sheep the first year, and the land would cost $8,000 to $15,000. Sheep accustomed to herding could be bought in the far West to-day for $1.50 per head, and 2,000 of them could be brought here in eight double-deck cars at a cost of, say, $800. Putting the cost of the flock delivered here at $4,000, and the cost of the land at $10,000, the total immediate investment would be $14,000. There would be no trouble in securing 12,000 pounds of wool from this flock in March, worth certainly 12½ cents per pound, or $1,500, and 1,600 lambs at $2.50 each; a total of $4,000 for lambs and $1,500 for wool, or $5,500 in all. The 2,000 sheep could be herded and cared for by one man and a boy; and the above statement of income represents merely the first year's business. Meantime, the land could be steadily improved, some of it could be plowed and sowed to grain or other crops; fences could be built; the soil would be constantly fertilized so as to maintain increasing numbers of sheep; and prices of wool and lambs would average far higher than those which I have given above for the present depressed period.

THESE "WORN-OUT" FARMS.

In the vicinity of Norfolk, truck farming for northern markets has given the farmers abundant resources from which to provide themselves with fertilizers.

Hence the soil has begun to be considered as teeming with fertility. But it is naturally of the same character as these "worn-out" farms of south-side Virginia. I am beginning to believe that the tobacco culture, which is the leading interest of this section, is nothing but a curse since its speculative character distracts attention from other and more stable forms of agriculture.

What I have said about sheep husbandry refers to the reclamation of fair-sized tracts of Virginia land. For cheap, "worn out" farms of 200 to 300 acres, the purchaser's main reliance the first year or two would need to be upon the plow, and he would keep a few sheep, as do the majority of farmers in this neighborhood. But even upon the smaller farms the size of flocks should constantly increase, and I have no more doubt that increased flocks of sheep are to be a primary agent in reclaiming the uncultivated lands of the southern states as well as of New England, than I have that the population of the United states is to show an increase from decade to decade.

REASONS FOR THINKING SO.

The reduced acreage of public lands in the West, the repeal of the pre-emption and timber-land acts of 1891, the restriction of acquisitions of title by parties desiring ordinary farming or agricultural lands to the method provided in the homestead laws, and the extension of the time of preliminary residence from six months to fourteen months, have lessened the movement of immigrants to those sections. These occurrences, together with the collapse of western mortgage companies, and the unsuitability of many of the western areas more recently settled for agricultural purposes, have all combined to turn the attention of future settlers toward the rural districts of New England, Virginia and others of the older states, both North and South. E&OE.

WILL WESTERN FARMERS COME EAST?

The greater portion of our recent inquiries for farms in New England have come from residents of cities in New England. We have had many letters from Boston and New York people, respecting the farm in Mercer described on pages following this. But the letter printed herewith shows that there is also a disposition on the part of western people to make some inquiries respecting New England farms:

AKRON, O., August 28, 1894.

Editor of the United States Investor:

In one of your newspapers there is a letter from Freedom, Maine, on "Our Abandoned Farms," which mentioned one of 207 acres, owned by a widow, who moved into an adjoining village and entertains travelers since the destruction of the village hotel by fire. It is on the road from Norridgewock to Farmington. The letter says it has a great barn, capable of holding 75 tons of hay, good house and out buildings. Some years ago I went to Newbury, Vt., with a view of locating. The enterprise did not pan out well. Have been talking to a number of our people about making homes in New England. Will you investigate the matter; find out if you can where it is; price, terms, and whether inducements would be held *nil* by the people there to induce old-time associates to help restore old times. An early reply will be appreciated. Yours truly, J. E. WESENER.

P. S. Mr. Henry C. Bowen, editor and proprietor of the New York *Independent*, or E. F. Judd, wool dealer, Hartford, Conn., can tell you about me.

PROBLEMS OF RURAL NEW ENGLAND.

[From the Boston Herald, Aug. 16, 1893.]

Mr. Frank P. Bennett's account of his experiments in the restoration of abandoned farms in Maine to productiveness, makes unusually interesting reading, and it has a special value as proceeding from a keen and well-trained newspaper man who looks below the surface to ascertain the reasons for things. Some current fallacies are exposed in his presentation of the situation, and his surmises of the causes that have produced the conditions of to-day in rural New England.

In the first place, we are only just discovering that New England has been a much misrepresented country as to the character of its soil. It has been reputed exceptionally unfruitful, and this reputation has been accepted at home almost unquestioningly. But Mr. Bennett's observations lead him to the conclusion that the land which he has taken in hand—which is that of the typical New England abandoned farm—is naturally fertile, and capable of producing good crops under proper cultivation. His farmer, who is an Englishman, pronounces it equal to the average of agricultural land in England.

Prof. Shaler recently stated, as the result of his geological observation, that the soil of New England is really superior for permanent cultivation to the prairie lands of the West, for the former contains the elements of self-renewal in its mineral constituents; that of the West, however, though richly yielding at first, at last becomes exhausted in a way that does not so readily admit of restoration.

Mr. Bennett mentions isolated cases of prosperous farmers surrounded by conditions of general abandonment. This suggests that the ailure of New England farms may have been largely due to lack of intelligent methods, and that with the better education of the farming population into a knowledge of how to make the best use of natural circumstances—just as the important cranberry-raising industry has been developed on Cape Cod and on the Cape Cod uplands certain market garden crops are now being successfully raised—prosperity may be brought back.

A main difficulty, however, appears to be social rather than industrial, and Mr. Bennett suggests that "the prestige of the great West, the vague seductions of city life and the not altogether uncommendable desire of rural youths to throw themselves into the business haunts of men," have chiefly caused the desertion of our New England farms.

Perhaps no amount of improved methods, etc., would counteract this tendency. New races of immigrants might, for a while, occupy and restore the old farms, as they are now doing to some extent, but the young people would continue to be attracted away to the cities.

Probably a true solution will be found in carrying the city to the country—that is, in giving the latter the educational, recreative and other social advantages that urban communities enjoy, just as the country is being brought to the city in the way of parks and garden spaces. This desirable end is being made possible by our modern facilities of rapid communication that are overcoming the obstacles of space and making near neighbors of all mankind, so that to a great extent rural communities already enjoy many of the privileges that formerly belonged exclusively to the inhabitants of cities.

It should also be borne in mind that the extensive introduction of machinery in agricultural methods has made unnecessary a large farming population, while for the processes of modern manufacturing the concentration of people in cities is essential. Therefore the growth of cities and the diminution of rural populations is a wholly natural process, but this does not make necessary the abandonment of our farming lands. Indeed, the ultimate outcome will probably be to increase their value.

OUR ABANDONED FARMS.

Incidents of Sheep Husbandry—Reflections During a Carriage Ride in Maine—Diminishing Local Industries.

FREEDOM, ME., August 7, 1894.

A foolish writer in a Maine agricultural paper has recently attacked the Board of Agriculture of that state for attempting some sort of an enumeration of abandoned farms. The principal feature of his argument is that there are on abandoned farms, his misguided pride in his native commonwealth inducing him to adopt the prevalent fiction of which I have spoken in previous letters, that a farm is not abandoned so long as somebody still treasures the title deeds among the family archives, and allows the diminishing crop of poor hay to be cut each year.

In the town of Mercer in Somerset county, last week, I found among other farms which local pride says are not abandoned, one decaying homestead whose story will illustrate the folly of encouraging that false state pride which would conceal the good opportunities that now exist for the purchase of cheap agricultural lands in Maine. For this farm of about 207 acres, with house, barn, stable, etc., its owner, a thrifty and industrious deacon of the local Baptist church, was offered $6,000 during the war. After his death in 1881, his widow, a shrewd, hard-working and pious woman of the best New England type, was offered $4,000 for the property. Two or three years later she gave up the farm and moved to the adjoining village, where she has comfortably added to her income by entertaining travelers since the destruction of the village hotel by fire, and this week she has offered the farm for sale for $1,500. It is on the road from Norridgewock to Farmington, and already there is talk of an electric railway between those two villages.

This farm, whose value had thus shrunk from $6,000 to $1,500, formerly cut 75 tons of hay. It comprises about 70 acres of hay fields, about the same amount of pasture, and perhaps an equal quantity of good wood land. Lack of attention for a dozen years or more has reduced the yield of hay from 70 tons to 30, and the buildings are suffering from similar neglect. The great barn well clapboarded and conveniently arranged with a large cupola on the roof, is capable of holding 100 tons of hay and accommodating a proportionate amount of stock. The house has a fine cemented cellar, a parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, buttery and two bed rooms on the floor; on the upper floor are four spacious sleeping apartments; adjoining the house is a large stable for horses and cattle, with a connecting shed after a common New England plan for farm buildings. The land lies upon both sides of the road from Mercer to New Sharon. The barn is upon one side of the road and the house and stable upon the other, and back of the house, from which a beautiful view is obtained, the farm slopes gracefully to the pretty Sandy River, that forms one of the boundaries of the estate.

Four or five miles beyond this farm is the village of New Sharon, at which a broad dam in the Sandy River furnishes a water power, which would astonish the casual visitor. Like many other New England country villages, New Sharon is retrograding in population and industry, and yet it possesses greater resources than half the southern and western boom towns in which so much eastern capital has been sunk in recent years. As I drove through the covered bridge and up the main street of New Sharon, I asked some of the villagers why the place was going down, and the answer was usually, "Because the young men go away as soon as they grow up." Having in mind the possibility of profitably reclaiming through sheep husbandry the farm which I have described, I was informed that many sheep were sold in Farmington last fall for 75 cents and $1 per head. Local butchers stated that they could pick from their purchases this fall some hundreds of the very best ewes with which to stock a farm for $1.50 to $2 per head.

In Mercer, and adjoining villages, several honest and industrious young married men were introduced or mentioned as willing to take charge of such a farm as

the one above. I talked with one of them who was willing to move into the house with what furniture he needed, and run the farm for $26 per month and what milk, butter and wood he required for his small family of wife and baby. All other supplies needed for his family he would provide out of his $26 per month. With 100 sheep, costing $150 to $200, a pair of horses costing $75 each, two cows at $25 each, and the comparatively small amount of tools required, the farm would be ready for occupancy. It is singularly free from rocks, strong and easy land, with a substratum of clay.

While the problem of unoccupied homesteads in some sections of the eastern states is a complex one, due to varied causes, I am quite sure that the abandoned farms in the section which I have just described are due to a much simpler influence. The good Baptist deacon who died in 1881 took his young wife 40 years earlier to a farm of 50 acres of land. By the fruits of his own industry he acquired an estate of more than 200 well-tilled acres, and as time passed he erected the spacious and excellent buildings which enabled him to receive an offer of $6,000 for the place 30 years ago. While the whole property is now offered for $1,500, the barn alone cost $1,200.

How easy it would be for a young man and woman, trained and equipped as were the young farmer and his wife, between 1840 and 1850, to take this place where they left it, and enjoy a comfortable and prosperous life upon this New England farm.

Did not the former owner leave sons? Yes. One of them is the village blacksmith, and another is a traveling salesman. They do not like farming. E&OE.

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA.

Names of Sheep Owners.

American Sheep and Land Co., Ft. Logan	14,000
Arthum Bros., Absorekee, Park County	3,000
Antelope Basin Sheep Co., cr. H. E. Thompson, W. Sul. Spgs	3,590
Berry Ralph, Winnecook	6,000
Berg and Bros., Castle	200
Blair Bros. and Whiting, Cleora	1,600
Bowman Bros., Toston	1,000
Bruckert Land and Live Stock Co., cr. A. Bruckert, Prest., W. S. Spgs	2,000
Boston and Montana Sheep Co., cr. N. Godfrey, Martinsdale	7,400
Boyd and La Brie, Big Elk	4,100
Cannon Henry, cr. M. J, Morgan, Cascade	1,900
C. W. Cook Sheep Co., cr. Jno. O. Hussey, W. Sul. Springs	5,500
Coates, W. W., Martinsdale	2,900
Danzer, Geo. F., W. S. Springs	4,000
Doggett, J. D., Fort Logan	1,800
Eggen, Johnson & Co., Castle	1,200
Ford, Wm. T., W. Sul. Spgs	8,800
Folson, D. E., W. Sul. Spgs	4,800
Foster Sheep Co., W. Sul. Spgs	4,000
Farrington, J. C., Melville	3,000
Fitzpatrick, L., Merino	5,800
Giltinan, H. J., W. Sul. Springs	3,650
Grande Bros., Castle	7,750
Grant, J. M., Martinsdale	2,600
Harry Sheep Co., W. Sul. Springs	1,500
Hedges, W. A., Yale	2,500
Hereim, T. M. and Bro., Castle	2,600
Holliday, Miss Mary, W. S. Spgs	1,000
Hovda, Oliver, Castle	2,000
Huntley & Clark, Toston	1,700
Hyem, James, Castle	300
Hale & Tintinger, Melville	650
Hopkins, Josephine, Melville	150
Jenizen Bros., Shawmut	2,500
Johnson, John, Castle	1,200
La Rue, Harvey, Fort Logan	50
Lewis, Len, Fort Logan	4,700
Lucas, John, Castle	1,200
Martin, G. D., Big Elk	1,800
Martinsdale Sheep Co., Martinsdale	8,000
Merino Sheep Co., Oka	4,000
Miller & Goff, Martindale	5,700
Moore, Perry J., W. Sul. Springs	4,000
Moore, Sanford, Big Elk	2,500
Montgomery Bros., Big Elk	1,200
Monte, Philip I., Bercail	2,500
Musselshell Sheep Co., Oka	6.400
McClatchey, Robt., Melville	1,050
Newkirk, Alice J., W. S. Springs	2,000
Norton and Lyons, Big Elk	3,300
New York Sheep Co., cr H. E. Thompson, W. S. S	6,850
Oswold, J. W., Cascade	1,800
Parberry, Wm., W. S. S	2,600
Parker, Geo. H., Melville	4,000
Pound, H. C. and Bro., Big Elk	1,750
Ramspeck, Mrs. H. J., W. Sul. Spgs	1,000
Rostad, George, Howie	400
Sayre, C. B., W. S. S	1,400
Sayre, Ed., Martinsdale	1,400
Severance and Shaw, Oka	2,500
Severance, Helen H., Oka	1,500
Severance and McVay, Merino	6,300
Shiell, Robt. G., Bercail	120
Shumaker, C. W., Big Elk	900
Shumaker, E. L., Big Elk	900
Simms, Joseph, Lavina	3,200
Skaufle, Andrew, Castle	675
Smart, Oscar G., Merino	4,800
Smith Bros. Sheep Co., Martinsdale	19,500
Stephens, A. J., Fort Logan	3,300
Stevens, M. N., Shawmut	3,100
Strong, W. G., Melville	150
Tintinger, N., Big Timber	800
Unity Sheep Co., W. S. Springs	4,000
Union Sheep Co., Oka	2,600
Van Camp, Al., Martinsdale	4,500
Veazie & McDonnell, Melville	8,000
Watson & Blaine, Fort Logan	1,500
Widdecombe, James, Melville	250
Widdecombe, Robert, Melville	200
Widdecombe Bros., Melville	1,500
Widdecombe, Jos	900
Woodson, John A., W. S. Spgs	3,900
Woodson Sheep Co., W. S. Spgs	9,550

AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

Some Suggestions Respecting the Old Fields of the South and the Abandoned Farms of New England.

[From the Boston Herald of May 6, 1894.]

FREEDOM, ME., April 28, 1894.

I will take advantage of some recent experiences and an interval of enforced leisure, to present a few rambling thoughts upon the possible improvement of those sections of New England and of the south Atlantic states which have reached what political economists designate as the condition of diminishing returns.

The abandoned farms of New England are more than matched by those which either ought to be abandoned or more intelligently cultivated in the older southern states. The agricultural returns in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, for example, show crop averages so low as to make even the poorest New England farmer shudder. During the famous boom town period of 1890, I became interested in a little land company in Virginia, and while nearly every boom town in the state has been a total or partial failure, ours is in fairly satisfactory condition because it has been a genuine village improvement association whose promoters have not speculated in the property, but are endeavoring to reap their reward by legitimate future dividends upon their investment. Our little town of Blackstone ships about one-fifth of all the tobacco raised in the state of Virginia, and, as it is a typical centre of a representative agricultural section, I mention the above circumstances as a further explanation of my interest in some comparisons between those sections of New England and the South in which various causes have led to abandoned farms or unsatisfactory returns. Our little Virginia town of Blackstone is the centre of an agricultural region or "back country," embracing several counties and an area of at least 500 square miles, and during the past four years I have visited not only that section but also very many other portions of Virginia ten or a dozen times.

In Kansas, Illinois, Maine and Vermont, the average production of wheat per acre is 16 to 17 bushels. In Virginia the average production of wheat per acre is but 9 bushels, and in North and South Carolina but 6 to 7 bushels. The same unsatisfactory comparisons exist respecting corn and oats. Oats is more of a national crop than any other cereal, and the average production in 1892 was 32 bushels per acre in Maine, 35 bushels in New Hampshire, 28 in Kansas, 11 in Virginia and Georgia, and 10 in the Carolinas. Of corn, Maine produced 35 bushels per acre in 1892, Vermont 39 bushels, Illinois 26 bushels, Kansas 34 bushels, Virginia 15 bushels and the Carolinas 10 bushels.

Now, the excellent averages of cereals per acre produced in the New England states is due to hard work, though the results are not always attractive enough to prevent the dismal multiplication of abandoned farms.

Isolated instances are not wanting in all the southern states of splendid productions of cereals as the result of careful attention by intelligent farmers. The reports of the commissioners of agriculture of Virginia and the other south Atlantic states deal mainly with these isolated instances of intelligent cultivation and big crops, and have very little to say about the low averages and thriftless condition of agriculture in general in those communities. And this suggests a fundamental difference which I have repeatedly noticed between the agricultural people of New England and of the older southern states. In New England rural communities the prevailing temper is somewhat too cynical and fault-finding. In the southern states it is boastful and over-sanguine. The average New England back country farmer is prone to present the worst side of every subject to himself and others. He is cynical as to the motives of his neighbors, and doubtful of the success of all proposed new enterprises. The southerner, upon the other hand, is over trustful, far too sanguine of the success of any enterprise which occurs to him. a natural boomer,

oblivious of his numerous failures, and very boastful of his occasional successes. Hence the Maine and New Hampshire farmers are unhappy and pessimistic with an average of 32 to 35 bushels of oats to the acre, while the Virginia planter is happy and optimistic with an average per acre of 11 bushels of the same cereal.

The abandoned farms of New England have been partially caused by the competition of the West, and this was preceded by a decrease of sheep husbandry not only in the eastern states, but also in the nearer middle states, like Ohio. With the free pastures of the region west of the Mississippi open to grazers, and with the choice government and railroad lands which were then readily accessible to settlement, the growing competition of the West caused a diminution of sheep husbandry and a subsequent abandonment of many New England farms.

I do not mean to imply that the diminution of sheep husbandry and the abandonment of farms bore to each other the relation of cause and effect; but rather that the competition of the West was one of the general causes alike of decreased herds of sheep, deserted agricultural homesteads, and diminished production of cereals, as well as of the unprofitableness of raising beef cattle and the fluctuating and often unsatisfactory returns from hog products throughout the farming regions of the eastern states. Some very good illustrations of the rise and fall of sheep husbandry in New England were afforded upon a trip which I have taken the past week through Somerset county in this state. Somerset and Franklin counties have always been the banner sheep areas of Maine, and the town of Anson has been one of the foremost sheep towns. After a good deal of labor I was able to dig out of the assessors' books at Anson, and the state library at Augusta, the following statement of the number of sheep in Anson in the years named:

Year.	No. of Sheep.	Year.	No. of Sheep.
1862	8,616	1879	9,599
1863	11,944	1889	6,296
1865	13,098	1892	5,606
1866	13,199	1893	4,503
1867	12,592		

It will be seen that the number rose rapidly during the war, and until 1867. I could not readily obtain the figures for the next 11 years, but in 1879 it had fallen to 9,599, and is now down to 4,503. The same decrease has taken place all over New England, and there are only two towns in Maine which exceed Anson, even in its present reduced number of sheep. Anson had 4,503 sheep in 1893, and Farmington, in the adjoining county of Franklin, had 5,902, and New Sharon 4,809. The people of that region, up near the Rangely lakes, have always been fond of sheep, and in the neighboring town of Freeman lived Israel Bray, known until his decease, about two years ago, as the

"WOOL KING OF MAINE."

I may say, in passing, that the decline of sheep husbandry in Vermont began at an even earlier period than in Maine. The number of sheep in Maine and Vermont was as follows, in each of the census years given:

	Maine.	Vermont.		Maine.	Vermont
1840	649,264	1,681,819	1870	434,666	580,347
1850	450,577	1,014,122	1880	565,918	439,870
1860	451,472	752,201	1890	370,484	333,940

The above are the returns of the United States census, but the returns of the bureau of agriculture show that in 1881 the number of sheep in Maine had risen to 632,078, or very nearly as many as in 1840. While the farmers of most sections of Maine have devoted their attention to coarse wool or mutton sheep, those of Somerset and Franklin counties raised for many years thoroughbred or crossbred merinos, like the sheep of Vermont. More lately, however, as they have reduced their flocks, they have turned their attention to thoroughbred Shropshires and Oxfords, and some splendid animals of these descriptions will be shown at the state fair in Lewiston next fall. But it is not upon the basis of thoroughbred Shropshires or Oxfords or other fine mutton sheep that sheep husbandry is to be restored in any considerable scale upon the abandoned farms of New England.

The great pastures of the West are no longer as free as formerly, and the supply of unsold agricultural land has greatly diminished. I have, therefore, based my own experiment in sheep husbandry and the reclamation of abandoned farms

in New England upon the theory that the most profitable method for me will be something part way between the careless, wholesale sheep ranching of the West, whose *sine qua non* is the merino sheep, and the intense system of old England, whose central figure is, perhaps, the Shropshire. One of the farms which I visited this week was that of Mr. B. Frank Hilton, in the town of Starks, Somerset county. One of his sons had some beautiful Shropshires, and was as enthusiastic over them as have been many other breeders of thoroughbred sheep with whom I have talked. The very next day I visited the flock of crossbred merinos of Mr. Benjamin Baker, adjoining the village of Skowhegan, and Mr. Baker said the only sheep he disliked was the Shropshires, and that he had generally found them unprofitable.

The explanation of this apparent inconsistency was not far to seek; Mr. Baker had about 300 sheep and devoted a very moderate share of attention to them. The Hilton flocks were generally considerably less than 100 each, and every animal received but little less attention than a child. Under these conditions a few Shropshires will pay handsomely; many of the ewes will have two lambs, and a few of the bucks will bring high prices.

But a successful breeder of fancy sheep, cattle or horses must be born, not made. It is only here and there a farmer that has the patience and adaptability to be a successful breeder. But I hold that a flock of 1,000 half-bred sheep can be made the basis of

A PROFITABLE BUSINESS

upon New England lands heretofore abandoned for agricultural purposes, and a flock of 100 similar sheep can be kept by a very small farmer with advantage. The flock of 1,000 sheep on a New England farm, housed and fed in winter, would raise 100 per cent of lambs, where the small Shropshire breeder gets 150 per cent and the large western ranchman perhaps but 50 per cent. In a similar manner he would get a better yield of wool than the western ranchman, and would avoid much of the care and attention of the eastern breeder. Even at present low prices of wool, his flock would yield

8,000 pounds of wool at 18 cents	$1,440
1,000 lambs at $3 each	3,000
Total	$4,440

With better prices for wool and lambs, his returns would improve, and it is by this introduction of sheep husbandry and by a greater degree of attention to stock-raising in general that New England agriculture is to be restored.

FRANK P. BENNETT.

CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA.

Names of Sheep Owners.

C. M. Anderson, Monarch	350
M. G. Anderson, Cascade	2,800
Felix Armstrong, Cora	3,400
W. I. Baker, Annington	3,500
Richard Barry, Annington	210
Bickett & Kennett, Helena	3,000
R. Blankenbaker & Co., Great Falls	2,500
Bower Bros., Stanford	5,000
Henry Cannon, Cascade	5,000
Cascade Land Co., Great Falls	3,000
T. M. Chamberlain, Great Falls	5,500
F. D. Cooper, Cascade	11,002
Geo. Curry, Cora	3,000
John J. Ellis, Great Falls	5,500
Elliot & Buchanan, Belt	3,000
Mark & Jones, Truly	3,500
First National Bank, Great Falls	1,000
Thos. D. Gearing, Great Falls	2,480
Great Falls Meat Co., Great Falls	1,500
National Bank, Great Falls	1,200
E. D. Hasty, Sun River	1,250
Geo. Hay, Geyser	3,000
E. R. Huggins, Annington	1,250
Levin & Erickson, Kibbey	25
R. A. Milligan, Milligan	125
E. J. McDaniel, Cascade	78
McGiffin Bros., San Corulee	125
S. J. McGrail, Cascade	1,500
W. A. McHardie, Belt	1,000
N. H. Nelson, Cascade	10,000
G. W. Barker, Heighwood	1,700
D. Pimperton, Cora	2,800
F. C. Poole, Stanford	6,000
Ray & Frederics, Helena	2,400
Read & Burmeister, Cascade	6,051
F. W. Ridley, Annington	2,300
Rupert & Ober, Kibbey	1,500
Sack Bros., Grafton	2,300
Thomas Shannon, Grafton	1,900
Sadler & Kaufman, Helena	1,450
Sun River Stock Co., Sun River	7,400
G. W. Talbot, Belt	2,400
T. E. Thornton, Kibbey	2,000
Herbert Walker, Great Falls	1,000
Carrie L. Wall, Kibbey	60

WOOL SCOURING.

Wool in its commercial form as shorn from the sheep's back and forwarded to market is not strictly *wool*. It contains from 20 to 80 per cent of grease and dirt. Probably, in all cases, at least 33 per cent of the fleece when first sheared is yolk or suint—a product partly of perspiration and partly of animal secretion which promotes the growth of the fleece, and perhaps 25 to 27 per cent earthy substances, 8½ to 9 per cent of fatty matter, and from 1 to 2 per cent earth matter fixed by the grease.

Wool is sold mainly on a scoured test, hence the popular idea of the large quantity of wool used will be essentially modified when one reflects that the statement of the sale of a million pounds of a certain sort may mean but half that amount of stock available for yarn manufacture when it comes from the drying room to the cards.

Ohio fine wools will shrink from 50 to 52 per cent; the shrinkage of Michigan fine will average 55 per cent; Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, No. 1, or medium clothing wools will shrink on the average 40 per cent; the fair average loss of weight in scouring, of several kinds of domestic wool, may be given as follows: Quarter-blood, 42 per cent; one-half and three-eighths blood, 45 per cent; fall Texas wools, 65 to 68 per cent, or 67½ per cent; Georgia and Lake, 37 to 38 per cent; Northern spring California, 65 per cent; Middle county, Cal., 67 per cent; Southern California, 70 per cent and upward; Montana fine wool, 65 per cent; Wyoming and Utah fine, 70 per cent, although there is plenty of Utah as light as Montana; fine Colorado will shrink from 70 to 72 per cent; the shrinkage of Eastern Oregon will average 65 per cent; the bulk of Valley Oregon is medium wool and will lose from 45 to 50 per cent in scouring. Most of the foreign *scoured* which comes to us retains about 7 per cent of the grease and ordinarily will have to be scoured again by the American manufacturer.

Efforts to start scouring mills in various localities have been in general unsuccessful.

In order to obtain from the fleece clean wool which shall be successfully wrought into the finished fabric, the grease, fatty matter and all the foreign substances with which it may be covered, must be removed by scouring, otherwise it will be harsh and inelastic, will not readily take the dye, or form a true thread or finally produce an acceptable and serviceable fabric. It is therefore of the first importance that the wool be not only thoroughly clean, but that the staple be preserved. If the water is too hot, the yolk will be fixed; if the water or solution is too cold, the yolk will not dissolve. If the alkali is too strong, the serrations will spring out and stop out from the body of the fibre, and thus prevent carding, spinning and fulling; the percentage of waste will be high, and the general working of the stock will be faulty and the goods finished hard and harsh. If the solution is too hot and the alkali too strong, the finest fibres or undergrowth will be dissolved, and the best felting properties of the wool will be destroyed; in short, wool needs to be scoured clean, brilliant, and at the same time as soft and mellow as velvet. Efficient soaps for the above purposes are manufactured, and are being used in large quantities with satisfaction by scourers.

WOOL PULLING.

While the bulk of the wool which comes to our market is shorn from the backs of live sheep, there is another source of supply, viz., that pulled from the dead carcass in the butcher's shop. This "dead" wool is used in this country to a certain extent for about every purpose to which live

fleece is applied, but it enters more largely into flannels, hosiery and underwear. It is utilized in a greater or less degree in those dress goods which are practically flannel. In England pulled wool, because of its comparative cheapness, is employed by many manufacturers in about every situation in which fleece wool would be otherwise used. The method of removing the wool from the pelt, now most in vogue, is the "depilatory" which consists in applying a solution of sodium sulphide to the flesh side of the skin, leaving it folded together a few hours over night, and subsequently removing the wool with a pulling stick.

The aggregate stock of pulled wool in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis at the close of 1894 was 11,326,667 pounds. The shrinkage in pulled wool varies similarly as in the case of live fleece, according to the kind of sheep from which it is taken.

SHEEP BREEDING IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Some idea of the extensive scale on which sheep-farming is conducted in Central Australia may be gathered from the returns of one week's shearing on the Burrawang station, the property of T. Edols & Co. For the week ending Saturday, October 6, there were turned out 817 bales, the highest day's yield being 155 bales on the 2d. The tallies of sheep shorn were: Monday, 6,386 three-year-old wethers; Tuesday, 6,483 wethers of the same age; Wednesday, 3,391 wethers, three years old, and 3,402 ewes, three years old; Thursday, 6,299 wethers, four years old; Friday, 5,602 wethers of the same age; and on Saturday, 2,794 wethers, four years old, making a total of 34,357 sheep shorn in one week, which is the record shearing for Burrawang. There were 83 shearers engaged in the shed, and the number of sheep shorn would doubtless have been much higher but that the sheep in this flock are very heavily fleeced. This will be seen from the returns of some of the flocks. The three-year-old wethers, numbering 20,135, yielded an average of 9 pounds, 2½ ounces of unwashed fleece, and the four-year-old fat wethers, numbering 21,000, yielded an average of 9 pounds, 14 ounces of unwashed fleece. The Burrawang flock is one of the most carefully bred in Central Australia, and the foundation from which a large portion of its profitable qualities have been derived is the Wanganella stud. Even with the low prices ruling for stock and wool, T. Edols & Co. have proved that it pays very much better to breed none but high-class sheep. The flock on this great Central Australian estate numbers about 270,000 sheep.

WORMS IN SHEEP.

This common cause of illness and death is frequently overlooked. If one or more of your flock is not doing well, you are advised to investigate and determine whether or not the indisposition is due to internal parasites. You can have the assistance of experts without cost, by writing a description of the trouble and addressing it to Moore Brothers, Albany, N. Y. Their advertisement appears in this book, and the firm is thoroughly reliable.

DISTRIBUTION OF SHEEP

In the Various Sections of the United States.

It would be manifestly impossible to print in the present volume any large proportion of the names of those wool growers whose combined flocks make up the total number of sheep in the United States. As showing the smallness of the flocks, and the wide distribution of the sheep in some sections, we print the number of sheep and the name of each sheep owner in Morrow county, Ohio. Wool growing is one of the principal industries of that county, and the fact that the 84,641 sheep in the county were distributed among 660 owners, indicates the manner in which sheep husbandry is conducted in the state of Ohio, where the farm system prevails. The following list indicates something of the character of the sheep husbandry in various states. In Crook county, Oregon, for example, 32 owners have 215,650 sheep, and in Marion county, of the same state, 29 owners have 144,400 sheep. In Kern county, California, 7 owners have 137,000 sheep. From these tables, the states of America, in which the ranch system prevails, can be readily distinguished from the states in which sheep husbandry is confined to the farm plan·

County and State.	No. of Sheep Owners.	No. of Sheep.
El Dorado county, California	1	10,000
Kern county, " ..	7	137,000
Maniposa county, " ..	16	24,600
San Diego county, " ..	3	10,000
Santa Barbara county, " ..	13	93,900
Tehama county, " ..	..	400,000
Walo county, " ..	4	18.000
Arapahoe county, Colorado	5	12,900
Huerfano county, "	12	35,800
Lincoln county, "	14	58,000
Henderson county, Kentucky	77	5,331
Clinton county, Michigan.....	30	2,061
Luce county, "	17	1,130
Cascade county, Montana	45	128,732
Meagher county, "	84	271,035
Teton county, "	64	167,443
Grant county, New Mexico..	11	33,200
San Juan county, " ..	14	41,500
Burleigh county, N. Dakota..	58	6,259
Kidder county, " ..	41	13,165
McHenry county, " ..	50	15,884
McLean county, " ..	17	5,890
McIntosh county, " ..	13	1,346
Oliver county, " ..	27	6,150
Towner county, " ..	2	625
Auglaize county, Ohio.....	13	2,125
Cuyahoga county, "	363	10,178

County and State.	No. of Sheep Owners.	No. of Sheep.
Fulton county, Ohio.....	21	3,300
Geauga county, "	775	27,787
Hardin county, "	12	4,200
Jefferson county, "	45	8,300
Logan county, "	135	25,892
Morrow county, "	660	84,641
Ottawa county, "	27	6,135
Union county, "	52	16,550
Crook county, Oregon.....	32	215,650
Josephine county, "	3	3,000
Klamath county, "	4	10,300
Walheur county, "	38	5,730
Marion county, "	29	144,400
Amora county, So. Dakota..	65	10,232
Beadle county, " ..	48	12,655
Buffalo county, " ..	12	1,081
Hyde county, " ..	22	5,585
Kingsbury county, " ..	25	4,869
Spink county, " ..	49	14,330
Union county, " ..	18	193
Box Elder county, Utah....	37	40,170
Cache county, "	7	6,700
Iron county, "	42	70,000
Sanpete county, "	115	174,687
Crook county, Wyoming....	6	2,125
Laramie county, "	16	26,878

A few letters from the wool growing sections, selected at random from the returns made to us by growers, are presented in the following pages.

NORTH DAKOTA.

How the Sheep Industry has Thriven There and Its Future Prospects.

STEELE, N. D., Nov. 19, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

I enclose you a list of wool growers of this county, regarding the sheep industry of North Dakota, and especially Kidder county, as I am more familiar with wool growers of this county. At the present time the wool and mutton growing in the western part of North Dakota is only in its infancy. The "free wool" of our Democratic friends has been a sad blow to this industry in this northwestern country. We, however, have great hopes of this matter adjusting itself with the help of the Republican party some time in the future. A cut of from 12c. to 14c. per lb. on our Dakota wools does not tend towards encouraging the business.

This portion of North Dakota lying west of the James river is not a farming country in any sense of the word. We are in a semi-arid region where sufficient moisture cannot be depended upon to mature a crop of any kind with any degree of success, and our people are now thoroughly convinced that stock is their only salvation.

A SUPERIOR GRAZING COUNTRY.

For grazing purposes, there is no finer land under the sun than the Missouri slope country of North Dakota, a magnificent pasture land, with lakes and springs sufficient to water all stock that our prairies will feed, with no limit to the hay that can be harvested and provided for winter feed. Our cold and severe winters are one draw-back to the stock industry of this portion of the northwest, though, as a rule, we do not have to feed to exceed four months of the winter. I had a little practical experience with a bunch of 800 grade Merinos that were shipped to this county January, 1889, from Dillon, Montana, They were in a very poor, starved out condition, and did not look as though they could possibly live many days, to say nothing of going through the winter.

They ranged on our prairie within a radius of a mile of the ranch, were fed poor hay for two weeks' time, and came out in April greatly improved and with a loss of 5 per cent. There was a light snow fall, but severe cold—for one week 40° below zero. Our wool growers of this part of North Dakota depend entirely on hay for winter feed, and where sheep have proper care as to shelter and water, they do well and come out healthy and in good condition. I have owned sheep for the past 12 years in Kidder county, and during the several winters my loss has not exceeded 5 per cent, and this has usually come from carelessness in culling the flock in the fall.

PROFITABLE AT PRESENT PRICES.

Even at present prices, I do not think there is anything more profitable to our farmers of this portion of the northwest than growing wool and mutton, taking into consideration the capital invested. Pasture and hay for winter feed are practically free to all those who wish to avail themselves of it. All kinds of roots grow with but little trouble, by breaking up the raw prairie; cultivate it a little, sow your rootabegga seed broadcast, and your labors are done till you gather your crop, and of an average season you will have a crop that would astonish any eastern farmer. The different kinds of millett and fodder corn all do well, even under unfavorable circumstances.

There will always be a few who will cling to raising wheat, and for the past few years I have failed to see the time when a sheep grower could not buy his neighbors' cheap wheat for from $10 to $16 per ton. And there is nothing that will give the mutton grower any more profitable returns than to feed this same cheap feed that his neighbors produce, to put it into mutton, and more especially lambs. The Chicago market for the past few years, for good, fat lambs, from February till May, ranges from $4.50 to $7.50 per 100 lbs.

THEY MUST HAVE CARE.

The Red river valley land of Eastern Dakota for raising wheat, is the garden spot of this country, but outside of this valley very few people have made wheat raising profitable. And so many of our farmers have been clinging to the raising of wheat and have gotten so extremely poor, that they are in no position to make a start at anything else. And sheep are a stock that, in order to be profit-

able, must have constant care, and more especially in this open country—not expensive care, but they should never be lost sight of. Many of our farmers have had the idea that sheep, like Russian thistles, would thrive and do well under any and all circumstances; and the consequence was, to this kind of sheep growers, sheep business was unprofitable. But practical sheep men of this county have slowly and surely increased their small bunches, and we firmly believe will make money out of the business of growing wool some time in the near future.

If our northwestern sheep men would give their business the proper attention, I cannot see why we cannot make money, with free feed and pasture, against the eastern grower with high priced land and expensive feed. We have plenty of room for enterprising stock men, and, with prices where they are, now is the time to enter the business. I do not profess to be a writer on any subject, but I have felt a great interest in the sheep industry for several years, and if you can make use of any of this that you find here, you are at liberty to do so, and you shall be the judge of its value, if it has any. Yours truly,

GEORGE S. ROBERTS.

WOOL AND MUTTON GROWERS

Of Kidder County, North Dakota.

	No.
Custer Sheep Investment Co	1,500
Frank Dowd & Haynes Jones	100
J. J. Jackman	1,600
B. Jacobson	100
Fritz Albrecht	325
Henry Albrecht	275
George G. Bape	250
Chas. Carpenter	200
Chas. Fiske	225
Chas. Hubbell	75
Austin Hogensen	450
Chas. Hart	50
W. H. Hubbell	200
Wm. M. Little	150
Thomas Lowery	600
E. N. Sharp	150
Dan Mensdorf	100
Ira Marv	300
S. E. Niles	200
John Nather	450
John W. Pierson	400
E. A. Sharp	125
Jacob Schwarzwoelder	75
Wm. Shepard	100
M. F. Woesner	300
J. M. Williams	250
C. E. Young	100
Raymond Keper & Co	150
Roberts Brothers	1,000
John Taylor	300
Mrs. A. R. Woesner	150
John Darling	225
H. S. Darling	250
J. C. Kraitheifer	40
John McLennan	50
R. C. Peters	250
Northwestern Live Stock Co., E. N. Wilson, manager, Bismarck, N. D.	1,200
E. M. Kunkel	100
J. A. Kunkel	500
C. D. Miller	200
Jackson Lafferty	300

The foregoing is a list of our present wool growers in this county, but I think the number is under-estimated rather than over-estimated.

GEO. S. ROBERTS.

OTTAWA COUNTY, OHIO.

PORT CLINTON, Nov. 19, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The following list are wool growers in Ottawa county:

			Sheep.
Samuel Wood	shears about		600
E. A. Powers	"	"	300
A. Hopfinger	"	"	500
D. R. McRitchie	"	"	300
John Hyde	"	"	250
William Sloan	"	"	350
Henry Miller	"	"	200
Henry Normell	"	"	150
A. A. Hopfinger	"	"	75
Wm. Darr	"	"	100
Fred Beck	"	"	175
Wm. Kelley	"	"	250
Andrew Beck	"	"	150
E. Lattimore	"	"	400
Jackson Quirno	"	"	100
Louis Mackey	"	"	100
Charlie Hopfinger	"	"	200
August Luchinger	"	"	125
Wm. Mulkey	"	"	150
John Peterson	"	"	100
Charlie Roary	"	"	250
Ready O'Neal	"	"	100
Peter Darr	"	"	85
John Peterson	"	"	100
James Miller	"	"	200
August Hopfinger	"	"	750
Charlie Boysen	"	"	75

The farmers in Ottawa county are going out of the business of raising sheep, as there is no money in it, because they only give about 13 or 16c. for wool, and after the wool is sold the sheep will bring nothing. Last year my father, D. R. McRitchie, sheared 446 sheep and got 13½c. right straight through. Most all the farmers sold most of their sheep this fall, so that they would not have to winter them, as it costs more to feed them than they will bring in the spring.

Most of the sheep raised in Ottawa county are fine wool; very few coarse-wool sheep. Wool is so cheap that most of the farmers do not wash their sheep, that is, fine wool. The most of coarse wool is washed. The reason they don't

raise coarse-wool sheep is that they eat a third more. Fine-wool sheep sold in the month of August at 75c. to $1.25 a head. We sold 100 for $1 per head, and 80 for $1.25 a head. In the year 1892 a great many wool growers held their wool until the next year, thinking they would get a better price for it, but at last sold it for less than they were offered for it the year before. The reason that the farmers in this county keep sheep is that they will trim the weeds out of the fence corners. The pasture was so short and dry that a great many sheep died through the summer. The men that have the most sheep in this county have large marshes for them to run in, through the summer. The sheep that have a good marsh do better than those on the high land pasture. The farmers are now breeding a few coarse wools with fine wool. Yours truly,

RALPH MCRITCHIE,
Port Clinton, Ottawa County, Ohio.

CLINTON COUNTY, MICH.

ST. JOHN'S, MICH., Nov. 22, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

I have been an extensive breeder of fine wool sheep, and have a very fine stud flock of the same; consequently, am well acquainted throughout the county. You will see the list of names I have sent you are addressed St. John's. This is the mail headquarters for nearly half of the county. The number of sheep to the grower, in most cases, is what they had early in the season, but of late they have reduced their flocks fully 50 per cent. This is the condition throughout the county, while many of the farmers have sold every sheep they had, and at very low figures, from 50 cents to $1 per head. While good, fat sheep and lambs are bringing only 2 cents per pound, live-weight wool was sold from 6 to 16c. per pound, while three years ago the same grade of wools was bringing from 18 to 28c. per lb., and good common sheep were worth from $2 to $4 per head, and fat sheep and lambs at that time were eagerly sought from 5 to 6½ cents per lb. Three years ago thoroughbred Merino rams were ready market for breeding purposes, from $15 to $30 per head; to-day, we cannot realize $3 per head. I know of one bunch of ewes that three years ago were ready, even quick sale, at $8 to $10 per head, to-day the owner cannot realize $1 per head. Last week I saw a bunch of thoroughbred Shropshires sold, a part of which brought $1 per head, and the balance 75 cents; they were in good, fair condition. There are quite a good many who are culling out their older sheep, selling from 40 to 50 cents per head, or killing them for the pelt, and feeding the carcass to the hogs.

So you will see there is no profit at the present time in the sheep industry, and the trouble is laid to "tariff tinkering." This assertion was sustained by the people of this state on the 6th of this November by 104,000 majority, which buried every tariff tinker aspirant. I have given you a truthful statement of the sheep industry of this county and section; what your object is I do not know, but I sincerely hope it will prove some good to the "golden" hoof, and if I have complied with the wishes of your circular, and in so doing have been any benefit to you, I shall think my time in penning these lines has not been spent in vain.

Respectfully, R. B. CARUSS,
St. John's, Clinton County, Mich.

McLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA.

WASHBURN, N. D., Nov. 17, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

We have found that the sheep business, when properly attended to, is a paying business. North Dakota is adapted for sheep raising and a great many have made a little fortune on them. We find the Merino ewe crossed with a Shropshire buck makes the best sheep for this country. Our grass is very nutritious; sheep keep fat, winter, falland summer on it. We generally have warm sheds for winter, feeding them hay, and allow them to go out and graze through the day, when not too stormy.

Yours truly, L. CASSELMAN.

NAMES.	P. O.	No. of Sheep.
Ole C. Peterson	Washburn	550
J. P. Peterson	"	300
S. A. Folconer	Falconer	700
C. A. Bartun	St. Stephenson	650
James Lormer	Coal Herber	350
Dan McOffee	"	400
Chas. T. Staley	"	400
John Peterson	"	50
Alex. Cesper	Turtle Lake	40
Perry Johnson	Dog Dew	440
H. B. Johnson	"	330
A. J. Masteller	"	450
F. B. Masteller	"	470
John Peck	"	200
Mary Pettit	"	185
Jay Peck	"	125
George Tuman	"	250
		5,890

UNION COUNTY, OHIO.

MARYSVILLE, OHIO, N 20, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Below you will find a list of wool growers in Union county, Ohio.

This county formerly was a great sheep county, but at present the industry is so run down that there are hundreds of farmers who used to have from 200 to 1,000 sheep that have none. I have the promise of a letter for you from W. G. McAlister, which I will forward to you as soon as I can. The following list is submitted to you:

	No. Sheep.		No. Sheep.
T. R. Perkins	175	Alex. Cameron	500
Wm. Perkins	150	W. C. Fullington	1,100
A. M. Taylor	400	Albert Hickok	500
John Miller	175	Beecher & Son	500
E. P. Hathaway	125	Walter Beecher	300
John Robinson	225	Easton & Beecher	650
Richard Watson	300	Wm. Henderson	450
J. P. Merriott	200	S. D. Kilgore	400
J. N. Rogers	200	T. P. Sheilds	300
A. Burnham	150	Stephen Cranston	150
Nathan Howard	500	J. W. Lockwood	225
O. E. Lincoln	250	Henry Coleman	275
Byron Robinson	250	S. G. Gilcrist	400
W. M. Staley	150	G. D. Hawley	200
M. L. Hazen	350	J. W. Robinson	900
Thos. Parish	150	Emanuel Jarvis	250
M. E. Taylor	250	Wm. Staley	300
Chester Seigman	500	Samuel Barnett	200
John Curry	200	Wm. Goff	250
J. K. Dodge	250	Elias Hatheway	200
C. S. Chapman	650	Wm. Howard	500
Wm. Fry	200	Luther Winget	350
N. L. McDowell	300	J. W. Munroe	150
J. C. McCampbell	450	W. W. Southard	200
J. D. McCampbell	200	J. K. Norris	150
Isaac Perkins	250	W. H. Loveless	150

Hoping the above will be of service to you, I am, Yours truly,

JNO. A. GOSNELL,
Deputy Clerk.

SHEEP IN COLORADO.

Colorado has always been among the leading western states in the live-stock industry, and still continues to hold her own in this respect. The unbounded range of the past, however, has narrowed down, and much of the land which in former years was open to cattle and sheep for grazing purposes has now been fenced by ambitious emigrants. There has also been a tendency to combine agriculture and stock raising, and the cattle and sheep men, instead of counting their herds by the thousands, now modestly speak of so many hundred. This of course has improved the grades of stock, especially of sheep.

Colorado is the natural home of the latter, as regards climate and pasture, and sheep most certainly thrive in this state. They are not subject to the diseases so common in eastern states, and the losses by foot rot, scab, etc., are comparatively light. Even where sheep are herded in large numbers and roam the range with but little care, the loss by disease is very small, and were the coyotes as considerate, the flock masters of Colorado need lose but little sheep.

FENCING AND IRRIGATION.

As before stated, farming and stock raising are now more closely associated, and most farmers have some stock to winter feed. This has been caused, as before mentioned, by the fencing of the public range in certain sections of the state. The success of irrigation, however, is in part responsible for this change, as alfalfa, clover and common grasses grow abundantly wherever water is used. This affords the small farmer a chance to compete with the sheepmen, especially where the object is mutton rather than wool. Having a limited number of sheep, he can give them more careful attention and breed to enormous size. Owing to the low price of wool, mutton raising at present certainly has the most promising outlook, and if not too greatly overdone ought to be a profitable industry for years to come. While it is true that sheep raising has been, owing to these changed conditions, considerably cut up,

THE OLD RANGE BUSINESS

is still largely carried on, and much of Uncle Sam's land is used for pasture

In Park county, for instance, a great number of flock masters own thousands of sheep, and depend largely upon the public range. The following description of a ranch in this vicinity will illustrate this point. This ranch is located near the town of Garo, and is owned by Geo. P. Dudley, one of the pioneers of the sheep industry in Colorado. The home ranch contains 320 acres, well fenced, with a good house, out-buildings and other comforts to make ranch-life as agreeable as possible. Besides the home ranch, there are several 40-acre tracts used for lambing and grazing purposes. Mr. Dudley, at present, has about 3,000 sheep. These were originally Mexican, but have been crossed with Merino until Mexican blood is about extinct. For the past five years

Shropshire rams have been used. The present herd is largely black-faced. Ewes are bred at 19 months. Lambs drop at two years old. If the ewes were fed as in eastern states they might be bred earlier, but with the care given them here this would be neither profitable nor expedient.

Owing to the altitude, 9,000 feet, there is no excessive heat, and it is never extremely cold for any great length of time. It rains some during July and August, and in the winter there is some snow, but not enough to make sleighing. Whenever it does snow, the ground is covered but a short time, which gives the sheep a good chance to rustle most of the time.

BUT LITTLE WINTER FEEDING.

Mr. Dudley, during the past 15 year's has had to feed his entire flock but one winter on account of deep snow, although bucks and small lambs are usually fed some. On account of the altitude, grasses mature well, and the hay is very nutritious. Some grain is used for feeding, but as none is raised in this section it all has to be shipped in, and makes rather expensive feed.

There is plenty of government land for range purpose. In fact, Uncle Sam's domain is nearly limitless. From July until October the sheep range on the mountains above timber line. Here they find abundance of bunch grass, which is most nutritious feed. Plenty of clear snow-water gushes down the mountain sides. Being above timber line it is always cool, and there are few flies to worry the herd. No other stock grazes on this ground, which also tends to make it a paradise for sheep, as the latter are so particular about their feed.

During October, the herds are driven to the winter camps. These are so situated as to give good protection in case of bad weather, being snugly nestled in the timbered hills. These winter camps are near the open plains, so the sheep can graze during fair weather, and yet be near shelter if foul weather sets in. During stormy weather, which seldom lasts long, they pick up all the feed necessary among the timber, which also affords ample shelter. One Mexican herder usually cares for about 2,000 sheep, and follows them about from place to place. The expense for cabins and corrals is very light, and at many of the camps there are no corrals at all. The entire expense per annum for the herd does not exceed 60 or 65c. per head. This includes the whole herd, and covers all expenses, shearing, feed, etc.

LAMBING AND SHEARING.

The sheep grow to a good size, and are very hardy. The ewes average from 90 to 100 lbs., and the wethers, 110 to 125 lbs. Losses are very light, and from any cause do not exceed 1 per cent. There is no loss whatever from disease, as these sheep are entirely free from foot rot, scab and other diseases. This is probably due to the climatic conditions which are so favorable to health, there being so little moisture in winter, and no long rains in summer.

During the lambing season Mr. Dudley employs four or five extra men to care for 1,000 ewes. Shearing takes place soon after lambing, and the same men with others are engaged at this work, the number employed depending on the ability to care for the wool, and the amount of shearing space. They all sack or ball the wool as fast as it is sheared, and it is sold either at home or sent to commission houses as circumstances or the market indicates. The fleeces average from 8 to 8½ lbs. for the entire herd, including lambs or yearlings. Of course the sheep men have felt the great depression in wool, but most of them are bound to hold on for better times.

Mr. Dudley made the following answer to the question: "How do you look upon the future, and what seems to be the general opinion in your section?" "I look upon the sheep industry in this county very favorably. The sheep owners here are financially in good circumstances, and are holding herds, confident that times will change in their favor." PETERSON.

SHEEP IN CALIFORNIA.

RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA, Dec. 9, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Your favor at hand and contents noted. In reply will say: as a wool growing state, California once stood at the head of the list, with 56,550,973 pounds in 1876, but falling in 1891, to 33,183,475 pounds of wool. As to the number of sheep, Texas is now first, Ohio second, and California third, with about 4,085,000 sheep. With her mild winter climate, California is indeed the most natural grazing state in the Union.

and Tehama county is one of the great counties of this wonderful state. Situated in the upper Sacramento Valley, the Sacramento river flows through it from north to south. It extends from the summits of the Sierra Nevada mountains on the east, to the summits of the Coast Range mountains on the west Its fertile valleys are abundantly watered by never failing mountain streams, which rise in the high mountains, and flow down through the valleys of the foot-hills, and across the great valley of the Sacramento to the river.

THE BEST WOOL-GROWING COUNTY.

Tehama county has for a long time been regarded the safest, surest and best sheep raising and wool growing county in the state. Her wools are given separate classes in the markets and command the highest prices. Her wools are well known to the eastern buyers and much desired. Sheep are shorn here twice a year. Six thousand bags of wool a year have been grown in this county and sold in Red Bluff, over 2,000,000 pounds, and bringing the growers about $400,000. Thousands of mutton sheep have gone to the markets every year, and hundreds of thousands of stock sheep have gone from this county in the past to stock the great ranges of Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. Her sheep have also gone to Colorado and Arizona, and even to Texas. Large bands of wethers have been driven from here to Wyoming, shipped by rail to Nebraska, there fed corn, then shipped to Chicago, and probably farther East. In 1877 there were assessed in this county 245,369 sheep and 118,092 lambs, and the next year 269,176 sheep were assessed. Think of climate and natural grazing conditions where a single county, in one spring, can raise without a ton of hay or a barn for shelter, 118,000 lambs. On the assessment roll for 1893 there are only 163,000 sheep and 14,692 lambs. Under the fostering influence of the tariff of 1867, the business has been built up in this country till we had in this county about 400,000 sheep.

GREAT DECREASE OF FLOCKS.

On account of the low prices for wool the past few years, which we attribute to the tariff reduction of 1883, and subsequent agitation of the question, some men have been put to the wall, others have sent their flocks to the slaughter house, and embarked in other pursuits, many of which are already over-crowded, and as a result of this decline we now have less than half the sheep we had twelve years ago. And the men who are trying to cultivate lands which are really much better adapted for grazing than agriculture are becoming more and more involved every year. Congress struck a fearful blow at one of the great industries of this country when it made the reduction of 1883, and sounded its death knell when it put wool on the free list.

With wool on the free list, California, as well as the balance of the United States, will in a very few years be out of the sheep business, and give that great and important industry over to South America and Australia. I have not here time to compare the difference in the expense of raising sheep and growing wool in the United States and these countries; but it is the belief of nearly every intelligent flockmaster that we cannot possibly compete with South America and the Australasian colonies in this industry, and that with free wool we must quit the business. With free wool, sheep will cease to pay running expenses, flockmasters will become discouraged, their sheep will be neglected and their flocks go to ruin. Nothing will go to destruction surer or faster than a band of sheep when not studiously guarded and cared for. They are timid, and everything is

A PREY UPON THEM.

The wild animals and our neighbors' dogs are after them day and night, and on account of the numbers together they are more subject to disease than other animals. Should this business be once destroyed (and free wool, I think, will do it), Australia, with her 125,000,000 sheep, and South America with 80,000,000 will raise the wool, England will manufacture the greater part of it, and the *rich alone* will be able to wear it. Once destroyed it will take a generation to build it up again.

These are my honest convictions upon this subject, after careful thought and years of observation and experience in the business, and I believe I voice the sentiments of all my neighbors. I own thousands of acres of land and so do my neighbors, upon which we run sheep exclusively, and we have been alarmed at the agitation of the tariff question, and are now discouraged at the passage of

the Wilson bill. This tariff question has been of much concern to us; we have invested thousands and thousands of dollars in grazing lands, and have devoted our energies to the business. We are deeply interested in this matter, have laid sentiment and politics aside, and honestly, candidly and frankly believe that free wool will ruin our business and give it to South America and Australia. You ask for the names of the sheep men of this county and the number of sheep owned by each.

Estate of the late J. S. Cone	35,000
Ward & Cone	12,000
George Champlin	16,000
Leo L. McCoy	13,000
John Finnell	10,000
Heavey Brothers	4,500
Joe Long, Sr	5,000
Joe Long, Jr	3,000
Willard Brothers	4,500
G. C. McCoy	4,000
W. H. Worley	2,800
Pat Cronin	2,000
G. G. Kimball	3,500
D. C. Mitchell	2,500
B. Guyre	1,500
Antone & John Nunes	3,000
Total	122,300

There are a few more men who still have small bands, but I cannot call them all to mind nor do I know the number of sheep they each have. Hope this will be satisfactory. Yours very truly,

LEO L. MCCOY.

KINGSBURY COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

DE SMET, S. D., Nov. 19, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Yours of the 5th inst. at hand and will hasten to reply. The following are a list of wool growers in this county:

Geo. E. and J. F. B. Masters	De Smet, S. D.	600
James Morrison	De Smet, S. D.	250
Wm. McCaskell	"	200
Peter A. Hora	"	250
Delos Perry	"	100
Luke Kelly	"	100
A. Hopkins	"	40
Pierson & Cooley	"	250
Geo. Moody	"	40
J. R. Hull	"	80
E. G. Davies	"	40
John Yurme	"	40
Fred Gehm	"	40
Wm. Gehm	"	25
August Gehm	"	30
Wm. Wurel	"	40
Jas. Sneezsby	Carthage, S. D.	250
LeRoy Murdock	Erwin, S. D.	200
John Corrol	Manchester, S. D.	650
H. Perry	"	100
A. M. Aspenwall	"	100
E. O. Wheeler	Iroquois, S. D.	750
L. S. Skeff	Lake Preston, S. D.	100
John Weddell	Arlington, S. D.	500
John Lindsay	Oldham, S. D.	90
Total		4,865

Now, in regard to the sheep interest in our vicinity. A great many farmers seem desirous of getting out of the sheep business just now, but it seems rather foolish, for there is no better place for sheep raising than this. In fact, it would be difficult to find better sheep than are raised in this belt.

AN ABUNDANCE OF FEED.

The luxuriant, nutritious native grasses afford an abundance of fat nourishment all through the summer, and as long during the winter as the snow will permit grazing, and that is most always until about Christmas time. As yet, this year the sheep have not been fed any hay, and they are in a fine condition.

The cold, dry, rainless winters favor the health of the animals and give an advantage to the sheep raisers which cannot be overestimated.

The universally cool summer nights, the abundance of well and artesian water, the proximity of the principal stock markets, Chicago, Sioux City, and the twin cities, in fact, in all parts of the belt there is easy access to shipping points on either of the great railway systems of the northwest.

This county, though yet in its infancy, will one day make one of the richest stock raising regions in the world. The Shropshires are the principal sheep raised here, although there is quite a sprinkling of Southdown over the country.

SHORT WOOL BREEDS PREFERABLE.

It is said that sheep can be raised here at 60 per cent of what it costs to raise the same in Wisconsin. It is also a fact that fodder is raised cheaper here than in any other place. The long wool breeds are not as popular in the West as the short wools, for the reason that the short wool is less easily penetrated by the rain and snow. But we would not have you understand by this that the long wool breeds cannot be profitably raised here. We would like to see more of the long wool breed raised than we have, for I think more care would be taken in sheltering them. The dark-faced sheep are popular with the butchers, they are so compact in form. While worlds of poor sheep and lambs are being slaughtered, we believe that the best flocks are being kept in the country. And our old shepherds are hanging on with great faith in the future, particularly that part coming after November, 1896.

There certainly are great possibilities for us in the next five years.

Most of the wool has gone from our section at 5 to 7 cents net; a small amount has been sold for 7¾ to 8 cents. The returns of the county auditor show over 3,000 head of sheep in this county for the year 1892; and of course it has greatly increased now. Think we have informed you of all the particulars in regard to wool growing in our vicinity. Hope to hear from you soon.

Yours respectfully,
S. HILTON,
De Smet, S. D

EL DORADO COUNTY, CAL.

PLACERVILLE, CAL., Nov. 20, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

James H. Miller, Latrobe, is about the only wool grower of any importance in this county. He has 10,000 head.

Yours truly,
A. S. BOSQUIT, Clerk.

WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Wayne has never ranked among the more important wool-growing counties of our state, partly because of the nature of some portions of the soil, which is low and mucky, on which sheep thrive indifferently, and partly because some localities were settled by descendants of the early French residents, who took more kindly to trapping and fishing than to agriculture. In the northern and northeastern portions, and in the territory bordering the Detroit river, wool is not grown to any extent. But in Redford, Wayne and Plymouth townships, and in the vicinity of Romulus, Belleville and Trenton there were at one time many flocks, some of which have survived the era of low prices. But the majority of the wool-growers here, as in other portions of the state, have largely reduced their flocks.

THE MERINO CROSSED ON OTHER BREEDS.

In the neighborhood of Plymouth and Northville—the most important towns aside from the city of Detroit—the sheep were at one time almost exclusively Merinos, and there are yet left some excellent flocks of grade Merinos kept for wool-growing, and a few thoroughbred flocks still survive. But most of the farmers who kept small flocks have crossed them with the Down breeds, and pay more attention to feeding for mutton than to wool-growing. The close proximity of a metropolitan market made this branch of sheep husbandry quite profitable for a time, or until so many took it up that it was overdone. In the southern portion of the county, where the most feeding for market has been done and where the raising of lambs is something of a specialty, the flocks are more or less mixed, consisting of fine wools, interspersed with Downs and long-wool breeds. Many of the fine standard Merino flocks, which helped make the county's reputation, have been crossed with Downs, so that very few purely Merino flocks exist in that part of the county. A cross of Shropshire on Merino has been an especial favorite with those who feed for market.

FARMERS DISCOURAGED.

The farmers who once took great pride in their sheep are badly discouraged at the present outlook. Prices, both for sheep, lambs and wool, have reached such a low point that but for the value of the sheep as a weed-destroyer on the farm and the fact that it can be wintered at low cost, while the manure from the sheep-sheds fills an important place in farm economy, they would keep no sheep at all. Prices for fine wools ranged from eight to ten cents, and for medium from 13 to 14 cents last season. There is little that is encouraging in such figures.

The worst feature of "the situation" is that the choicest flocks have suffered from the depression even more than the scrubs. To keep up a flock of sheep demands constant care, good feeding and intelligent breeding. And when prices are too low to return a fair reward for such care as is required, the owner either parts with his flocks or allows it to run down, both in size and quality. Michigan once ranked among the foremost states in the Union, in regard to relative importance of the sheep industry, average weight of fleece per head, and quality and fineness of fibre. Much Michigan wool was sold as Ohio xx in the eastern markets, while the fact that the Wolverine state bore off the honors on Merino sheep and wools at the Columbian Exposition speaks for the quality of her stud flocks.

IMPROVEMENT CEASED.

But as soon as the depression came all efforts at improvement ceased, not only in Wayne county but all over the state.

Farmers rushed into mutton production, crossing their flocks with the mutton breeds and producing good feeders, but sacrificing purity of blood and something in weight and quality of wool by so doing. Years of time and toil spent in improving the flocks, and thousands of dollars expended for the purpose, have been thrown away; and if conditions should change at once it would require five or six years to bring up the standard and recover lost ground. The men who have maintained their flocks in spite of discouragements, will undoubtedly reap the reward of their courage in due time, for a reaction is inevitable. But at the moment, most farmers are inclined to sympathize with John Randolph, the old Virginian, whose hatred of sheep was so intense that he would go half a mile out of his way to kick one. E. J.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CAL.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The following is a list of sheep men for Santa Barbara county, California:

T. B. Dibblee	20,000
Miguel Lacabe	4,000
Leon Carteri	2,500
Bruno Orello	3,000
Chas. Bradley	2,000
J. B. Lebien	2,000
L. Loustalot	2,000
W. G. Waters	1,200
Santa Cruz Island Co	15,000
Estate of A. P. More	35,000
D. Borderre	1,200
Mateo Naldo	4,000
Juan Elgert	2,000
Total	93,900

The above figures are mostly taken from the assessment roll and are presumably a little under the true facts.

Yours truly, F. L. KELLOG,
County Clerk.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY, OHIO.

UNIOPOLIS, Nov. 26, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The clerk of the court of this county sent me your circular requesting me to answer it, and in doing so allow me to say that there are no very large wool growers in this county, for the reason that nearly all of our land is available for cultivation, is very fertile and consequently high priced, so that while many farmers have 25 to 30 sheep, comparatively few have as many as 100. There is but little to be said of the wool industry here, as the greater portion of sheep are kept as secondary crop for the purpose of cleaning up the fields and to consume the surplus feed, etc., and in this way have and will still pay to keep a few sheep. I herewith send you a list of the larger flock owners of this county:

	No. of sheep.	
Samuel Anderson	500	Spencerville, O.
J. F. Lusk	300	Uniopolis, O.
Hugh Rinehart	50	"
H. T. Lusk	300	"
J. A. Copeland	75	"
A. P. Rinehart (myself)	100	"
J. R. White	100	"
John Horn	200	Waynesfield, O.
Dennis Horn	150	"
Simon Horn	100	"
T. E. Bowsher	50	Buckland, O.
John Barrington	100	St. Mary's, O.
Thos. Schoonover	100	Moulton, O.

Yours truly, A. P. RINEHART.

CROOK COUNTY, OREGON.

PRINEVILLE, ORE., Nov. 26, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The following is a list of the leading wool growers in Crook county, Ore.:

E. E. Allen	1,500	Thos. Jones Est'te	4,400
B. F. Allen	8,000	J. G. Julien	3,350
Love Bailey	1,500	Z. T. Keyes	3,000
Chas. Bernard	2,000	T. H. Lafollette	3,200
P. Brogan, Sr.	5,000	Looney Bros	10,000
W. W. Brown	5,000	Morris, Mrs. W. P	3,350
Baldwin Sheep & Land Co.	20,000	McMeen & Morrow	3,000
M. N. Cartwright	2,700	Newman & Sons	4,000
James Connolly	3,000	Col. M. C. Nye	7,000
Conroy & Joyce	3,000	Prineville Land & Live Stock Co.	9,000
E. C. Faught	3,000	Lister Bros	4,500
Fagan & Hagerty	3,700	Shrum & Sons	5,000
Fitzgerald & Co.	3,500	Thomas Jefferson Stephenson	3,500
J. W. Gage	2,950		
J. N. Gulliford	5,000		
T. S. Hamilton	6,000		
Total			139,150

Yours truly, ARTHUR HODGES,
County Clerk.

MUSKEGON COUNTY, MICH.

BAILEY, MICH., Nov. 26, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Sheep interests have suffered greatly in this county during the last five years. Formerly a good sheep was worth from $4 to $6; now the regular price of sheep is from 75 cents to $1.50. Wool has steadily decreased in value until the highest price paid for that article this year, in this county, was 13 cents per pound. As the price of wool has declined they have gradually lessened the number of sheep, until the parties named have approximately the numbers set opposite their names, which they will winter over and try it again. There have been more sheep sold out of

this county this year than at any former time and the average price, $1, is hardly enough to pay one-half the cost of raising. Should the market continue as it is for two years longer, there would be scarcely 500 sheep to be found in the county. The kind of sheep raised are a grade between the Merinos and Lesters. There are some Southdowns. The farmer has tried to raise a fine grade of wool, and has not paid much attention to sheep for the mutton market. Feed being scarce, the approach of a severe winter being apprehended, the absence of any indication of a raise in the price of wool, the small size of sheep, etc., are leading causes of the large and continual sale of sheep at such starvation prices.

Yours respectfully, O. T. BOLT.

LARAMIE COUNTY, WYO.

CHEYENNE, WYO., Nov. 19, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Below please find a list of wool growers in Laramie county, Wyo., as per assessment roll of 1894:

Bresnahen & Smith, Cheyenne	300
Parrett, C. G., Denver, Colo	5,000
Bristol, M. P., Little Bear	2,220
Hargrave, Matt., Rawhide	2,015
Hargraves, R. C., Rawhide	1,400
Hart Bros., Rawhide	229
Jones, A. Y., Iron Mountain	80
Moran, John, Glendo	1,030
McDermott, J. F., Glendo	304
Newman, George, Badger	1,317
Plumn & Howard, Cheyenne	2,540
Sherman, S., Patrick	605
Whitcomb, E. W., Cheyenne	1,020
Wilkinson, John, Egbert	2,530
Wilkinson, Anthony, Egbert	1,525
Warren Live Stock Co., Cheyenne	14,763
Total	36,878

Yours truly, JOHN K. JEFFREY.

GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

SILVER CITY, N. M., Nov. 21, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

Yours of the 5th at hand, and in answer I will give you all the names of the different sheep men that I can remember at this writing, which are as follows:

	Head.		Head.
E. Wellington	7,000	J. A. Martin	2,000
Pat. McKeefry	5,000	James Thwaits	1,500
E. E. Watkins	3,000	Bell Hudson	1,200
J. K. Melalf	2,000	Washburn	2,500
J. M. Morris	3,000	Jas. M. Upton	3,000
Bishop Bros	3,000		
Total			33,200

M. H. TWOMEY.

FULTON COUNTY, OHIO.

WAUSEON, O., Nov. 26, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

I herewith submit the names of some of the principal wool growers, selected from the various parts of the county. Having purchased wool this past season, and having bought and shipped thousands of sheep, are my reasons for attempting to give you such information as you desire:

	head.
George D. Newcomer, breeder of thoroughbred Delaine sheep	100
Joel Brigham, breeder of thoroughbred Delaine sheep	150
D. K. Shoop, bre'er of thor'bred Delaine sheep	100
D. T. Miller, breeder of thoroughbred Delaine sheep	100
J. H. Brigham, master of the Nat'l Grange	200
L. G. Eley, state representative	250
Albert Deyr, ex-representative	175
S. B. McLain	200
C. A. Burr	200
David Beebe	700
H. S. Persing	200
Dr. D. W. Hollister	175
F. T. Blair, ex-sheriff	150
W. P. Cowan	100
Nicholas Dowling	100
James Bruce	175
Wm. Drennen	150
Anson Wilson	125
Daniel Dowling, ex-sheriff	150
W. J. Connell, ex-sheriff	150
Total	3,650

The above selection represents producers of the various grades of wool grown in this (Fulton) county, and are of the most thrifty and enterprising farmers.

CONDITION OF SHEEP INDUSTRY.

As to the condition of the sheep industry in this county, I will refer to the state auditor's report for accuracy of the yearly product. For the year 1891 (which, of course, is the clip of 1890), it was 151,064 lbs.; for 1892, 202,507 lbs.; 1893, 194,930 lbs. The assessor's reports always represent the number of pounds of wool of the year preceding. From the assessor's report of this township for 1894, I find there is a shrinkage of 15 per cent in the number of pounds of wool produced. Taking this as a basis for computation for the entire county, it represents a loss in round numbers of 30,000 lbs., or 164,930 lbs. for the year 1894, against 194,930 lbs. for the year 1893. But this actual shrinkage is insignificant in comparison to the loss in the coming year's clip. It will certainly reach 50 per cent or more.

A very large number of our farmers have lost all hope in the future of sheep

industry, and are disposing of them at whatever price they can get for them, even as low as 50c. per head. In the wake of such universal disgust in the present condition and future outlook, follows universal neglect and poor care, which means less pounds per head for those who still retain a portion of their flocks. Even those who do retain their flocks are curtailing the increase, and are only breeding a few of their choicest sheep—at any rate, a small percentage of their usual number.

It is a safe estimate to state that 75 per cent of the loss or shrinkage in the number of pounds of wool produced in northwestern Ohio will be of the fine wool order. First, because the fine-wool sheep are small and inferior mutton producers, are bred for wool exclusively, which, at a price less than 20c. per pound, will not pay the cost of raising. Secondly, northwestern Ohio is a flat, level country, with a rich alluvial soil, with no sharp hills, table lands or stony ridges, and the sheep pastures of one season are the tilled fields of the next. So that the conditions are such that it will drive the farmer into keeping small flocks of mutton producers and coarse wool. This is as near as I can give you, of a "truthful report of the condition of the sheep interest in this vicinity." Permit me to subscribe,

Very respectfully,

T. F. WILLIAMS, Wauseon, O.

EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., Nov. 29, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

I will give you some or possibly all of the sheep men in this county:

	No. of sheep.		No. of sheep.
S. Greenway.....	8,000	Holt Live St'k Co.	18,000
Stubs & Read....	7,000	Skinner & Ashley	6,000
Fred Young.....	6,000	Wm. Strachon...	9,000
Bennet Bros.....	2,000	J. N. Snider.....	2,000
H. C. Funsman..	7,000	J. L. Besour.....	3,000
Jas. Brown.....	2,500	S. M. Buzard.....	800
Total.....			38,800

This is all, I think, in this county.

The sheep business is very much depressed, with wool selling the past two years from five to eight cents per pound. Most all engaged in the sheep industry in this locality have been in the business for a good many years, and are financially in good shape to stand this free trade blow to our industry; only one or two scabby lots in the county. We are living in hopes of better days for sheep, and if they do not come in two or three years, think most of them now engaged will go out of it.

We do not like to sell sheep for one-half they were worth three years ago, but to have $10,000 to $50,000 invested and work hard through all kinds of storms, night and day, and then be hardly able to make expenses, it is only a matter of time how long one can keep up his grit in the present state of affairs. Manufacturers can shut down when they are running at a loss. We cannot; we must hang to it or go entirely out. Hoping to see some brighter light to the industry, and that we may not be obliged to go out of it into other lines of trade now well supplied or depressed, and that better days may soon come, I remain,

Respectfully yours, H. S. ASHLEY.

BENZIE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

BENZONIA, BENZIE CO., Mich., Nov. 28, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The sheep growers are disposing of their sheep as rapidly as they can; the situation may be summed up in this. sheep are not worth more than about one-third of what they were two years ago; no profit in keeping them.

Truly yours, WM. WILSON.

SHEEP IN OHIO.

The Industry in Cuyahoga County.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, Nov. 28, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The condition of the sheep raising industry in Ohio does not, in all probability, differ much from that in other parts of the country, except that the conditions effect a larger industry than that in many other states. Ohio has always been considered a banner sheep-raising state, and in this part of the commonwealth nearly every farmer kept his flock of sheep. In this immediate vicinity the medium wool is the staple article and the flocks of sheep have been smaller in number than in southeastern Ohio, where the rolling ground and generally favorable conditions to the raising of fine wool has made the production of that quality easy, and where large flocks of sheep have been common.

The Cuyahoga county farmer has been accustomed to divide his sheep into two or more flocks, when his sheep have

been more than 50 or 60 in number, as sheep from whom medium wool is obtained do not thrive in large flocks. At present the wool industry throughout Ohio, and especially in this section of the state, is dead. One of the most experienced wool dealers in this part of the state told your correspondent to-day that Ohio farmers would not sell wool even when they had it, and that no money was being made in sheep raising except for mutton. This dealer in conversation with a man who raises sheep and who had been acting as his agent in one or two townships in this county, asked him whether in the event of the passage of the tariff act, putting

WOOL ON THE FREE LIST,

he would continue to raise sheep, to which he replied: "Yes; even though the profit in wool is gone I can still make a little money by raising lambs for the market."

The average yield of wool to the Ohio sheep is five pounds, and it can readily be seen that the Ohio farmer cannot profit by taking the wool from the sheep's back for 75 or 85 cents a sheep. The Ohio farmer is a reading man and oftentimes impressionable, and his reading of the newspapers often leads him, by reason of this and that which he sees there, to either hope that his wool will command a better figure later on, or that the buyer can offord more than he offers These impressions, coupled with the ract that he really cannot profit by selling the wool at present prices, are accountable for the disinclination of the farmer to sell at prices now offering. But it is nevertheless a fact that the wool supply has been to a great degree exhausted. During the summer ended, there was a good demand for Ohio wool. The season opened with offerings in this part of the state at 15 cents a pound for washed fine wool, and 17 cents a pound for washed medium wool. These low prices were doubtless in anticipation of a considerable reduction, if not an actual elimination of the tariff on wool

In the course of the summer there was, however, a

DEMAND FOR THE PRODUCT,

which is ascribed locally to eastern speculation in anticipation of tariff change, and the price rose to 16 cents for the fine wool and 18 cents for the medium article. Notwithstanding that these were low prices, there were a great many northern Ohio sellers at the time In and about Cleveland the dog question has been most discouraging to the sheep farmers, and has of itself greatly reduced the number of sheep farmers in the county. One or two dogs can, in the course of a single night, completely demoralize a flock of sheep, and the existence in the county of a large city of 300,000 to 400,000 people with many dogs, has made the evil an ever present one.

The laws of Ohio permit to a farmer, whose sheep have been injured by dogs, an indemnity to partly cover the loss of the animals. This is to encourage the industry. So many of these claims have been presented that County Auditor Schellentrager remarked when your correspondent presented himself to obtain a list of the wool growers for the American Shepherd's Year Book directory, that the claims for sheep injured by dogs would furnish almost as complete a list of wool growers in this county as the assessors' returns, from which the list sent you was actually compiled.

The wool farmers of Ohio are the more distrustful of buyers and the more inclined to be suspicious of them, because they (the farmers) did not understand fully the reduction of the price in wool some years ago, directly after the passage of the McKinley act. This reduction was due to the glutting of the Australian wool market, but the northern Ohio farmers, who had been promised an increased price with the increased tariff, were slow to understand it.

OWEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

OWENTON, KY., Nov. 22, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

I send you a few names of men whom I can recall, and if you should desire a more complete list I shall gladly hunt them up for you:

Thos. Gayle, New Liberty, 200 to 300 common sheep, wool average about 5 lbs. per head.

James Wood, Harrisburg, Ky., 60 Southdowns, wool average 5 lbs.

E. C. Brainbridge & Son, 150 Oxford Downs, wool average 8 lbs.

Wm. Forall, Owenton, Ky., 75 head mixed Oxford Downs, wool average 6½ lbs.

Newton Roland, Owenton, Ky., 30 head common sheep, about 5 lbs. wool.

James Dillender, Owenton, 30 head mixed Oxfords, average 7 lbs.

James Sandford, Bromley, common sheep.

John Hayes, Harrisburg, Southdowns, about 50, wool average 5 lbs.

SHEEP FARMERS RAISING TOBACCO.

The farmers in Owen county are largely tobacco raisers, and on that account have, to within the few past years, paid not a great deal of attention to sheep raising; but owing to the necessity of in some way cleaning as well as improving their land, there has been in the last few years a considerable increase in the growers of sheep.

The great falling off in both the price of wool and of lambs this season has had the effect of numbers of farmers greatly reducing their flocks, and in many instances getting rid of them entirely. Should the present prices continue next season, it will undoubtedly still further reduce the number of sheep in this county. The prices prevailing this season were 14 cents for wool, and 3½ to 4 cents per pound for spring lambs, while the season preceding, wool brought 23 cents, and lambs 5 to 5½ cents per pound. Should prices like the latter be obtained the coming season, we think it would have the tendency to rapidly increase the wool growers of this county.

Yours, etc.,
E. BAINBRIDGE.

THE DELAINE MERINO.

The Battle of the Breeds to a Finish.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

The more you study types of sheep, the more you develop properly the highest-bred type in existence, the fine-wooled race now termed Merino the world over, the easier you foresee the conquering spirit of the mutton polled Merino. It is the only type by which you can establish fully the best-known qualities of mutton and wool with the greatest vitality and spark of life. All combined make American sheep culture the wonder of the world.

It is bound to be a mutton Merino in the United States. All else is seriously left when Merinos reach 200 pounds regularly for rams used as breeders, and shear above 25 pounds of light shrinking wool, such as many mutton Merino rams now do in Ohio; ewes, 18 pounds to 25 pounds, maturing above 150 pounds, with all that worldly vitality established by centuries of vigor acknowledged. The world's best Merinos are in America. There remains much knowledge to be imparted to the common breeder, both as to methods of feed and

PROPER TYPE OF BODY

to try to produce. There is an apparent likeness of type between the best of all nearly-allied breeds. Good wool is the same, no matter on what breed it grows. Wherever it grows best of superior quality, density, length and evenness, covering and softness and brightness, points the best type for highest wool production for breeders to follow these slow, competitive times. If we are into a ditch by reason of our ports being open to foreign wool and sheep products, there is only one way to distinguish ourselves left; that is to beat the world breeding sheep at home, both in mutton and wool. This will annihilate the breeds of internal weakness and external poverty. Away go nearly half of our sheep before the rest left; all reach the desired quality to remain under the changed competition of open ports, and turn back the tide of foreign sheep products now setting in. An industry built properly can defy the world—it is a lesson breeders in many ways ought to be taught—how it feels to get but little wool and still less a pound for it.

In America the pounds are greatest; in Europe and Australia the price the greatest. Mutton and wool are now selling for much less than it costs to produce them. The purely mutton breeder was tired of his lot as the man who has nothing after shearing his sheep and sending his wool to market. This is possibly the age of something for nothing, from the United States treasury down to the poor wool grower out West, trying to get a bid on his wool. How many of our people know that wool is charity now to the manufacturer, railroads and commission men?

PEERING INTO THE FUTURE.

There remain but three ways to make it pay to handle sheep. First, stick to it, fight it out; charity should commence at home. By giving up, all is lost; reduce your expenses, study the hard times, and what makes wool and mutton grow best. Second, it will be found to be vitality of system, trueness of type, with special best qualities strongly

knit into a breed. Third, care and feed to save all gain made, and market before loss is sustained. The true shepherd and breeder now takes the field against the world, ocean freights, cheap markets on wool, free mutton produced at a loss generally worse than wool. A tumble of the breeds is apparent, sheep must pay or be destroyed; men follow no pursuits for absolute loss. Sheep must be almost perfect to remain cherished this day. Constitutional breeds shall survive; they must have perfect skins to produce perfect wool, and live out of doors. We cannot pay shepherds, buy feed, and see profits on any foreign breed; cheap lands make cheaper sheep, and sheep cheaper and final extinction.

THE HIGHEST MUTTON FORM.

It is my opinion, gleaning back a few centuries, that the Southdown formerly was an abandoned fine wool sheep, abandoned as to the best wool production, but not as to proper mutton requirements. Under the breeder's art the highest type of form for mutton has been developed. Under the breeder's art mutton Merinos with perfect fleeces and Southdown type are here in a polled way. The only breed that has never been abandoned as to the highest wool production is the Merino; it will take less time to develop the mutton form properly than the wool, that is, in the Merino—another score for the Merino. A second cross with the Merino on Southdown has been held to produce finer wool than the pure Merino from the Hammond flock of Vermont, when crossed with the noted ram Sweepstakes. This shows assimilation of blood, perfectly, and past affinity of blood of the two breeds. Producing a true mutton type and eliminating the horns from the Merino, you come to the Southdown perfect mutton type.

As all the other Downs are built on Southdown (mixtures in degree with long wools and possibly hairy Merinos) the Southdown is an abandoned fine wool breed or race, without an earthly doubt. Hence the proper mutton development of Merinos, giving them the true mutton forms of the world-famous fine-wooled Southdowns, will down all known British breeds; they will be thrown away; don't shear enough; can't raise mutton cheap enough on high-priced corn.

MUTTON MERINO'S FUTURE ASSURED.

Free trade may run them entirely out as pure breeds. The past is secure for the Merino, the future assured with economical true type and care bestowed upon the business of raising the standard to constitute a perfect mutton form of body with perfect fine wool fibre also. This will be the great American Merino at last, an international wonder. Merinos properly bred are still gaining favor in Ohio and the United States at this time.

H. G. McDOWELL, Canton, Ohio.

BOX ELDER COUNTY, UTAH.

BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH, Nov. 21, 1894.

Editor of Am. Shepherd's Year Book:

In compliance with your letter of 5th inst., I send you the following list of wool growers in Box Elder county, taken from the Assessment Roll for 1894. I have omitted all transient herds owned by parties residing in other counties:

Names.	P. O. Address.	No. Sheep.
Wm. Harsley	Box Elder, Utah	90
August W. Valentine.	"	2,000
Jos. M. Jensen	"	2,500
J. C. Cutler	"	500
Cornelius Wright	"	1,000
Julius Keller	Mantua, Utah	400
Moroni Jensen	"	350
P. C. Jensen, Jr.	"	600
Peter Jensen, Jr.	"	1,100
M. M. Jensen	"	600
Abraham Hunsaker	Box Elder, Utah	600
Thaddeus Wight	Cals Fort, Utah	75
Israel Hunsaker	Honeyville, Utah	1,800
Arthur Neeley	"	900
W. S. Hansen	Collinston, Utah	400
M. L. Ensign, Jr.	"	300
John Kelly	Portage, Utah	800
Utah Sheep Co., care Art Hess	Plymouth, Utah	4,000
Carl Jensen	Bear Riv. C'y, Utah	1,500
Abraham Hunsaker	"	500
Lewis Hunsaker	"	500
A. E. Barnes	Corinne, Utah	1,500
C. M. Vensy	Kelton, Utah	2,000
Nels Jensen	"	100
A. Chadwick	Park Valley, Utah	100
James N. Morris	Rosette, Utah	325
H. Campbell	"	300
Jonathan Campbell	"	1,500
J. A. Raleigh	"	600
T. J. Dunn	Terrace, Utah	3,000
David P. Thomas	Grouse Creek, Utah	2,000
Darrah & Brown	"	1,400
Lewis Howell	Yost P. O., Utah	800
John Lind	"	250
John Blythe	"	5,000
Barnes Brothers	Standrod, Idaho	600
William Holt	"	200
Total		40,190

Respectfully, OLEEN N. STOHL,
County Clerk, Box Elder County.

AURORA COUNTY, S. D.

PLUNKINGTON, Jan. 10, 1895.

Editor American Shepherd's Year Book:

The sheep industry in this locality has been steadily growing for the past ten years, and to-day is among the leading industries of the county. There are about 10,000 sheep in the county at the present time, and all who have invested in sheep seem to be very well pleased with their investment, and have no desire to change their sheep for other stock. Why sheep raising is fast becoming the leading industry of this county is readily understood by all who have ever had occasion to visit this section and enjoy our delightful climate, which is dry, and the winters short and very mild for this latitude. The weather is warm, with very few heavy frosts before Christmas, and many times in the history of the country, the ground has been in such condition in January and February that the settlers engaged in farming have been able to go out and plow their fields. We also have very little snow, and the vast prairies when free from snow, afford excellent pasturage for sheep and cattle all winter. The infrequent snowfalls that do occur are not injurious to the sheep.

This fact was proven during the winter of 1887–'88, which is known as the "hard winter;" the great blizzard which occurred Jan. 12, 1888, will long be remembered by the people of this country as the most severe storm in its history, in which many people lost their lives. During this storm several flocks of sheep were completely buried in the snow, and remained in their snowy graves until after the storm had ceased, and suffered very little from their apparent exposure. The native grasses, commonly called buffalo, alkili, bluejoint and slough grass grow in abundance, and all stock, and more especially sheep, grow fat and make a good living with but very little grain during the winter. The secret of this is, the grass cures if left on the prairies, and retains its nutritive qualities the same as when cut, and cured in the windrow or cock.

There are at the present time over fifty settlers engaged in the sheep raising industry, and own as above stated about 10,000 sheep, and each year their flocks are increased by at least one-half. The expense of sheep-raising in this locality is very small as compared with other industries that the people have ever been engaged in. Pasturage is plentiful and very cheap.

The running streams and flowing or artesian wells supply an abundance o water. What hay is needed for winter, when there is snow, can be cut most anywhere on the prairies, and with the machinery now used two men can easily put up hay enough during hay harvest to feed 5,000 sheep during the winter. The abundant growth of the Russian thistles caused by dry weather also furnishes excellent feed for sheep. During the summer, while green, if sheep can get them they will eat them in preference to anything else, and after cold weather and frost dries and bleaches them the sheep are still very fond of them.

The spring weather being very mild and dry, the early lambs can be profitably raised, as the loss caused by cold, damp spring weather in most counties is comparatively nothing here.

Foot-rot and other diseases common among sheep, are unknown and never heard of here. The loss by wolves is also very small, as the common shepherd dog is master of the prairie wolves that inhabit these plains. The foregoing is a short statement of a few of the advantages enjoyed by those engaged in sheep raising in South Dakota. The following are the sheep raisers of the county, together with the number of sheep:

Baker, Wm.....	30	Lemck', Fritz	10
Brabender, C.....	5	Larson, James...	15
Bullock, H. S.....	225	Merkle, Geo.....	25
Bradwisch, C. H.	10	Miller, C.....	15
Brady, Henry....	82	McCartney, S.....	100
Clark, O.....	100	Milne, A. W.....	60
Closson Bros.....	450	Mullen Bros.....	250
Coxwin, H. M...	3,090	Maack, J. H.....	12
Cook, V. S.....	10	Mattison, E. A....	190
Chautry, J. A....	150	Nelson, C. E.....	10
Davis, John.....	200	Owen, J.M. & E.E	125
Degan, Peter.....	10	Parry, R. M.....	400
Dockendorf, T....	9	Parry, W. G.....	100
Dunbar, J. H.....	10	Reeves, G. L.....	105
Dunn, W. E.....	175	Riusch, Nick.....	375
Finlayson, Marshal...	25	Schwartz, Jacob..	75
Frank, Peter.....	10	Spissman, M.....	110
George, A. H. J..	225	Stoddard, J. H...	8
Guindon, N.....	5	Streeck, A. F.....	10
Hoobler, Wm.....	375	Sampers & Mason	500
Hall, A. H.....	313	Severance, M. A.	175
Herrick, A. F.....	225	Steffen, Fred.....	90
Hughes, Hugh ...	30	Schmidt, Ernst...	25
Hockett, Alvah...	210	Suelflow, Herman	165
Hockett, W. E....	25	Storla, O. H.....	50
Irons, J. T. S.....	25	Taylor, Carrie....	60
Johnson, S.....	8	Taylor, Iowin....	50
Just, J. T.....	35	Tovey, John.....	10
Jones, R. E.....	200	Walbaum, Conrad	110
Kirby, John.....	35	Williams, H.....	50
Krell, John.....	95	Wannamaker, J..	105
Kirck, Peter.....	175	Vermilyea, C. E..	250
Kramer, Peter....	25	Total.....	10,232

SHEEP IN UTAH.

Reports from all over the northwestern range indicate excellent condition of sheep and good prospects for the coming winter. Some apprehension was felt among some of the range men prior to the recent general snow storm, as the flocks had to be kept upon the ranges adjacent to running water, and as these streams were being rapidly frozen up, the condition of many flocks was beginning to be alarming. The desert furnishes the winter range, being inaccessible in summer for want of water. As soon as snow begins to fly, the flocks are taken out into these solitudes, and the feed out there consists chiefly of a small white looking salt sedge bush, very strong and nutritious, but requiring plenty of water in the way of moisture for stock feeding upon it, the snow being melted for camp use as well. As the bucking season is now at hand, the bucks will be taken out to the feeding grounds and remain through the season, cut out and taken to the railroad and shipped to their respective ranches. Eight car loads left Salt Lake on the 10th for Green River, Wyo., for service in flocks ranging in that vicinity.

IN FAIR FINANCIAL CONDITION.

The sheepmen of Wyoming, Utah and Idaho, notwithstanding the hard usage of the past two years, are in fair condition financially and in good spirits withal. The election indicated beyond question that Democratic majorities, like all other things in this world, will eventually come to an end. Notwithstanding three long years must roll along before any radical change can be expected, still some are even now laying plans and speculating, so to speak, upon that change, and whistling up new courage for the long struggle. A synopsis of the industry in this section is about as follows: The lamb crop the past season was satisfactory in percentage of increase and condition at the approach of winter, several consignments having been received at central markets from interior points in Wyoming and Idaho the past two weeks, prime in condition, meeting with ready sales, netting owners in the neighborhood of $1.75 per head.

Feeding muttons have found ready sale in this section, at shipping points on the railroad, at from $2 to $2.50 per head. Stock sheep are being held on an average of $2 per head, some select herds of breeding ewes having changed hands at $2.75 per head. The wool clip from these ranges is reported in the eastern markets as fully up to the standard of other years, and is claimed to have netted growers on an average about 7½ cents per pound, the average yield of wool having been about 9 pounds per head. A reduction of about 12½ per cent in wages paid employes and other expenses has become imperative, following the slump in sheep and wool values, and it is to be feared that other reductions will follow. The necessity for

IMPROVED METHODS IN SELLING

wool, as well as its growing and preparation for market, is being felt and discussed. It is suggested by many progressive sheep men in the West that some plan be introduced similar to the auction sales in London, where individual clips, however small, could be bid upon and sold in the open, as affording more justice and encouragement to individual growers than the present plan, whereby wool is often sold in lots containing a number of clips of different grades and condition at a uniform price. Apart from the injustice of selling heavy wools often recently dipped in lime and sulphur, in the same lots and at the same price, as well-grown, clean, staple wool, and often not having been dipped at all, it is very discouraging to men who are willing and anxious to devote the best efforts of both hands and brains to the growing and marketing of their wools, and in making it what it really should be, not a raw material, but a product of labor and skill.

The large shipments of sheep and Hampshire Down bucks from the eastern breeding farms to this section for use the present season, would seem to indicate a radical departure in breeding lines among these long-headed Californians, who years ago brought with them to this then sparsely settled country, the finely-bred California French and Spanish Merinos. They have remained true to their first love through all the changing vicissitudes of a quarter of a century, but seem to realize now that they have come to the parting of the ways, and are preparing to supply the imperative demand of this country for a better class of mutton and at the same time produce a good all-round mutton and wool sheep, for which the vast ranges of the West, with

its climatic conditions, seem admirably adapted.

SHEARING MACHINES,

The question of introducing shearing machines is coming in for a large share of discussion, and the consensus of opinion seems to be in its favor, notwithstanding the trial which was made last season at Casper, Wyo., proved unsatisfactory, owing to the density of fleece, and the large amount of foreign matter, such as grease, sand and gravel, which is always found in western range wools, and also some apparent imperfections in the machine itself. Still we have no doubt but these difficulties will be overcome as soon as the demand for the machine becomes fixed and certain.

Machine shearing possesses the following advantages which are apparent at a glance: Nearly one pound more wool than by the old method, the fleece of uniform length, instead of the irregular and haggled condition of the average hand shearing, and the absence of cuts, which in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, where the "blow fly" plys his deadly work are a source of great loss and exasperation. In conclusion we see no cause to despair of the future of the great industry which has contributed so much to the material resources of the far West, and with the near approach of the "new year" we extend greeting, and earnestly hope to see the return of its former prosperous days. TRAVELER.

SHEEP IN WYOMING.

Wyoming has exceptional advantages as a grazing country on account of the vastness of the public range as well as climatic and other conditions. In many respects it offers greater advantages than Colorado, as the public range is less cut up and there are still vast tracts of government land with no signs of fence or other improvements. Flocks of sheep roam for miles undisturbed by wire or "buck" fences. Wyoming is, in fact, the ideal country for the sheep man who owns but a small home ranch and depends on the range for pasture.

Many thousand sheep are owned by men who have just improved ground enough to raise the required amount of hay for winter use. The cattle and sheep men are also on pretty good terms which is not always the case in some of the adjoining states. There are comparatively few controversies between these naturally antagonistic factions, although the cattlemen do not take very kindly to the encroachment of the sheep.

THE BEST SECTIONS.

One of the best adapted sections of the state for sheep raising is in the south central part of the state and embraces the country known as the Loraine Plains. Here is a stretch of sun-browned prairie extending to the western and southern range of mountains and affords excellent shelter as well as pasture for sheep.

The mountains and foot hills are covered with nutritious buffalo and other grasses and in summer furnish abundant feed for the large herds which range upon them. After the first snow fall, which in some seasons is quite early, the sheep are driven down to the plains. Here they find good feed, and very little snow falls all winter to interfere with them—sometimes barely enough to supply water.

Occasionally a bad storm comes, but the snow does not lie on the ground long. During these spells of bad weather, feeding is necessary, and the sheep men in this vicinity figure on putting up about ten tons of hay for each 1,000 sheep. This is sufficient for a winter's use, except in rare cases. As but little hay is raised more than is annually consumed, this article sells at a good price, and sometimes when a winter is rather long and severe, commands a high premium.

Flocks that graze near home are in sheep sheds over night, but many flocks are held on the open range, the herders having a house wagon, with stove, bedding, etc., and follow the herd on a roaming commission wherever the best feed is to be found.

At night if they can find a thicket of willows or high sage bush, or a sheltered canyon or draw, so much the better; if not they camp wherever night overtakes them. The sheep lie around the wagon on the open plain and if cayotes are not scented remain quiet and rest. If any of these prowlers are scented, however, the poor herder finds his hands full and has to do some "night herding."

THE POOR HERDER.

These poor herders do not pass a very enviable existence, and it is a common saying in the West "to become a sheep herder means sure insanity." Sometimes these poor fellows have no companions but their trusty dogs and horse and it is no wonder they often become sullen and morose.

The writer has often watched flocks of sheep roaming across the plains, and it is certainly a sight more monotonous than gazing at the rolling sea. Think of a man following a flock of these creatures with the dull, hot prairie ever before him, and the hot sun beating down upon his head, with perhaps no other change for months. The only men who can stand this any length of time are the Mexicans, and they become anything but amiable after years of this work. Most of the sheep raised in this vicinity are the Merino grade, and seem best adapted to the country. There are also many Shrops, Oxfords and Lincolns.

Some owners have as many as 15,000 sheep, although there are many small sheep men who own but a 1,000 or 1,500. Few owners have much land and look to "Uncle Sam" for pasture. Shearing takes place soon after lambing and the average fleece weighs about 10 lbs. There is very little loss from disease, and the cayotes end the lives of the majority that die.

A LOSING GAME.

The industry has very largely fallen off the past two years and many small men are about ruined. Some are now selling their sheep for mutton, which for small fine wool sheep is a losing game. In years past, too much attention has been given to raising sheep for the fleece alone, and flock masters can now see their mistake in having done so. The large owners have made up their minds to hang on until the tariff is replaced. It is not, however, so much a matter of choice with them, as inability to sell out at any reasonable sacrifice. Some of these men who are in good circumstances, think this is a good time to buy and are taking the advantage of of low values.

This is certainly a season of suspense and the sheep men need all the encouragement the present Congress can give them. Those with courage enough to "stay with it," however, are more likely to realize than those who sacrifice their flocks at this most unfavorable time.

Certainly sheep have reached their lowest point, and as nothing stands still prices must improve, Those who now hesitate can do no better than heed the advice of the editor of the AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER, "Don't desert the flock." PETERSON.

HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO.

GREENFIELD, OHIO, Dec. 4, 1894.

Editor American Shepherd's Year Book:

In southern Ohio the sheep industry is lagging very much; wool is low under present administration. Since the election the sheep have begun to prick up their ears as much as to say that if they live long enough they will have their say again and sheep will be wanted again. I am a breeder of Hampshire Downs and since the election have sold quite a number of rams to cross on Merino ewes. Wool having dropped out, our sheep men are looking after the mutton interest. The Hampshires are noted for hardiness, for being very prolific, and for imprinting their progeny on their offspring.

The lambs grow up strong and stand up for their living and when five months old will weigh a hundred pounds, so we are lucky among the unlucky. The flocks in our section are generally small; farmers do not depend on sheep raising entirely for a living, yet they add to the thrift of their farms, and what is nicer than a clean flock of mutton sheep on the farm? They keep their noses pretty close to the ground but do not root, yet they keep the obnoxious weeds down, and add much to the income of the farm at old time prices, and we cannot drop the sheep unless we are compelled to. If we have to die 'twill be a hard death to the country. So, for the good of our country and land, why not protect the innocent sheep that in times have given us the wool off their backs and their carcasses for mutton to satisfy our hunger? Speed the day when our sheep and wool will be protected.

HUGH GHORMLEY.

WILLIAMS COUNTY, N. D.

WILLISTON, N. D., Nov. 23, 1894.

Editor American Shepherd's Year Book:

Principal wool growers in the county are as follows:

	No. of sheep.
Clinton Peddrick	2,500
Edwin Park	3,000
Fred Tigley	3,000
E. C. Palmer	1,000
Lampmann Bros	5,500
Total	18,500

Wool clipping has been very heavy, as also has the increase. Respectfully,

G. ANDERSON.

MORROW COUNTY, OHIO.

The wool industry in Morrow county, O., is one of the principal industries. The soil is well adapted for grazing, being a heavy clay soil, mostly, and somewhat rolling. The sheep industry ordinarily is a profitable industry to the farmers of this county, but the prices of sheep and wool are very low at the present time, and it has a tendency to lessen the industry, and the sheep in numbers are growing less every month. Some of our farmers have endeavored to counteract or remedy falling prices by breeding a coarser and larger sheep, but this is unprofitable, at least as to the wool, for coarse wool is very, very low and not much in demand, the finer grades of wool being much more preferable and much more ready of sale, and it is only bringing the nominal prices of 15 or 16 cents per pound, which disheartens the farmers and creates a desire to dispose of their sheep with very few buyers and low prices.

The consequence, if prices do not increase, will be that very few sheep will be kept in this community. There is a general disposition in this county with wool growers to dispose of their sheep at almost any price, as they look upon the industry with much disfavor, taking everything in consideration.

Yet, with all this uneasiness on the one part, there are a few growers who are full handed financially that hold on to their flocks, and are increasing them slightly, in anticipation of improved prices when the country grows less wool, thinking it is the surplus that has brought the industry in its present condition. With all that can be said of the wool industry, pro and con, it will continue to be one of the important industries in this section of Ohio. And it is safe to anticipate that when the political disturbance has quieted down and business and other industries begin to improve and grow, the wool industry of Morrow county will quickly follow. There were in April of this year, 1894, 84,641 sheep in Morrow county, Ohio.

No. Sheep.	Name.	Post Office.
53	C. F. Brown	Mt. Gilead
74	Jas. E. Brown.	"
71	Jona. Brown	"
50	E. S. Crichfield	"
69	E. J. Chase	"
160	J. R. Clark	"
67	J. R. Crichfield	"
75	Geo. W. Eccles	"
125	Wm. M. Eccles	"
125	Bell A. Foye	"
60	Isaac Gates	"
50	Jos. Goorley	"
125	T. C. Hobson	"
100	H. H. Harlan & J. W. Harlan	"
50	G. Jaggers	"
70	James Jackson	"
70	G. E. Jackson.	"
102	Hicks Mosher	"
105	Robt. Mosher	"
70	Joseph Morris.	"
100	N. F. Newson	"
150	John Newson	"
70	Jacob Shaffer	"
88	Jos. Vaughan	"
73	Job Wells	"
50	T. A. Wood	"
105	Asa M. Wood	"
137	Thos. Yeoman.	"
58	W. H. Burns	"
16	H. C. Ewers	"
260	John Loren	"
75	B. S. Russell	"
45	C. W. Barter	"
100	Briggs & Lunly	Mt. Gilead "
60	Wm. Crawford & Sons	"
65	T. A. Campbell	"
124	L. F. Early	"
40	David Feigley	"
75	Robert Fulton.	"
65	Steven Fulton.	"
102	G. B. Goorley	"
75	W. Hendershot	"
104	Wm. S. Hull	"
323	Wm. Hull	"
47	W. O. Hartpence	"
46	Irwin & Garver	"
132	R. F. McKibben	"
90	J. W. Mozier	"
80	J. W. Mozier & Son	"
72	D. M. Slack	"
125	Solomon Truex	"
65	H. C. Vanatta	"
60	Mrs. L. B. Vorheis	"
44	D. C. Bingham	"
113	R. B. Levering	"
94	D. G. Poland	"
145	W. M. Wright	"
69	Geo. O. Coe	Edison.
89	W. H. Detwiler	"
54	Mrs. Mary E. Dalrymple	"
135	A. R. Elliott	"
70	G. M. Ewers	"
70	Samuel Kelly	"
80	C. K. Kelly	"
270	J. H. Kelly	"
100	W. H. Miller	"
200	A. B. Newson	"
49	J. A. Rush	"
173	G. Taber	"
70	Adam Hilderbrand	"
43	G. W. Bowman	"
54	W. Brocklesby	"
60	Andrew Campbell	"
145	W. J. Campbell	"
54	Benj. Hull	Mt. Gilead
150	G. W. Hull	Edison
56	Jonah Herrod.	"
55	J. H. Ward	"
49	Am's Alworth	Chesterville
60	M. E. Brown	Smailes
65	Jermiah Baker	Fulton
65	S. L. Baker	"
44	S. W. Chipps	Chesterville
50	D. C. Chilcote	Cardington
45	Benj. Davis	Chesterville
112	G. W. Gordon	Cardington
127	Israel Gordon	Chesterville
79	W. F. George	Cardington
53	Wm. George	Chesterville
65	L. Green	Smailes
67	L. Gorsuch	Marengo
60	G. W. Hiskett	Fulton

No. Sheep.	Name.	Post Office.
52	N. W. Hiskett..	"
72	J. H. Hayes....	Cardington
38	G. W. Hammond	"
60	Joseph Heald..	Fulton
112	Luther Howard	Marengo
98	Wm. Jones.....	Mt. Gilead
550	Evan Jones....	Marengo
3	J. H. James....	Fulton
8	G. J. Loyd.....	Chesterv'le
5	Wm. Loyd.....	"
2	B. F. Loyd.....	"
9	E. B. Main.....	Cardington
9	C. C. McCanica.	Fulton
65	Isa'c McCrack'n	Chest'rv'le
68	W. McCracken..	"
50	Robert Metter..	Marengo
182	O. D. Phillips..	Fulton
290	C. Rhodebeck..	Mt. Gilead
45	L. G. Redd.....	Cardington
75	J. C. Sherman..	Marengo
25	B. J. Snyder...	"
175	Joseph Shorb..	Smailes
94	Eli Ulery.....	Fulton
70	F. E. Vernon...	Marengo
55	G. Wentermute.	Chest'rv'le
54	J. E. Wiley.....	Fulton
110	Adam Baker...	Woodview
75	Th's. Carpenter & Son.....	Shauck's
81	L. M. Carpenter	"
54	St. Cl're Craven	Woodview
100	John Halferty..	Shauck's
120	Wm. Huntsman	Woodview
65	A. Coe & Sons.	Shauck's
60	Eliz. J. Miller .	"
61	C. L. Miller....	"
179	John Rule.....	Woodview
110	G. W. Walters..	Shauck's
60	H. C. Shauck...	"
125	Hilderbrand & Dwyer.....	"
60	Morris Kline...	"
100	G. W. Lockhart	"
88	J. Baughman...	"
113	Henry Bixler..	"
75	J. R. Carver....	"
125	Emanuel Baker	Woodview
55	John W. Cover.	Levering
65	Nancy Cook....	Andrews
165	Perry Cook....	"
50	E. A. Faust....	Woodview
85	Joseph Green..	Andrews
120	C. F. Graham..	Woodview
70	Dent'n Graham	"
75	F. M. Hathway.	Levering
45	J. L. James....	Andrews
85	Bryan Levering.....	Woodview
85	W. S. Levering.	Levering
105	N. Merwin.....	Woodview
54	W. F. McKee..	"
45	T. M. Phillips..	Andrews
200	Mary A. Rule..	Woodview
100	G. W. Sowers..	"
115	M. L. Sowers..	"
30	J. J. Thuma....	"
135	John Wiand....	Levering
140	G. H. Davis....	"
55	J. J. Walters...	"
50	P. A. Benedict.	Marengo
80	Myers Clark....	Fargo
40	J. M. Loyd.....	Marengo
150	B. B. Lewis...	"
80	S. A. Lindenberger.....	Pagetown
80	S. C. Meaker...	Fargo
70	T. C. McQuistion	Pagetown
65	M. W. Mead...	Marengo
60	Norton Moore..	Pagetown
120	W. A. Sterritt..	Marengo
65	O. Vancikle....	"
140	Welch Carlisle.	"
83	J. Allison.....	Bloomfield
80	H. E. Ashley...	Marengo
100	A. D. Bennett..	"
178	E. Bennett.....	"
50	A. Bennett.....	"
50	J. Cramar.....	"
140	H. D. Decker..	"
70	J. S. Daugherity	"
180	M. Dudley.....	"
85	L. Dudley.....	"
80	S. Dicks.....	"
90	O. H. Dustin...	"
100	O. W. Flemming	"
55	J. F. Foster....	"
45	S. P. Gage.....	Mt. Gilead
75	J. N. Hedington	Perles
50	M. Howard.....	Marengo
90	P. Herrod.....	"
190	E. Havers.....	Perles
165	A. B. Kers.....	"
99	S. Kelly.....	Sparta
55	D. J. Loyd.....	Marengo
70	H. Mealic.....	Sparta
45	I. Selby.....	Perles
90	G. A. Turney..	Marengo
160	Ayers Taylor..	Sparta
50	F. F. Wecar....	Marengo
80	J. Weist.....	"
50	J. C. White.....	Perles
70	W. Werts.....	Marengo
20	C. B. Brokaw.	Sparta
80	H. E. Butler....	"
85	W. Colwell, Jr..	"
125	John Coe.....	"
35	Jessie Hulse...	"
80	David Jackson.	"
70	Wm. F. Keller.	"
80	Henry Keller..	"
121	Jessie Kile.....	Mt. Liberty
125	H. J. Reinhart.	"
80	Henry Slack Jr	Sparta
50	Abe Herron...	"
75	A. C. Corwin...	"
300	Chase & Dewitt	"
65	John Dewitt...	"
125	S. B. Marvin...	"
210	W. Swetland...	"
170	C. W. Throckmorton	"
80	J. D. Thomas.	"
120	Vail Arthur....	Sparta
70	Vail & White..	"
70	E. Bowen.....	"
90	L. Bradfield....	Bloomfield
96	James Beatty..	"
117	Mary A. Barr..	"
175	A. W. Brown..	"
80	Sarah E. Dix...	Sparta
160	A. L. French...	"
140	D. S. Hopkins..	"
120	Deliah Harrod.	"
75	F. G. Hulse....	"
80	Thos. Hicks....	Sparta
225	J. J. Loyd.....	"
100	N. F. Lyon.....	"
85	L. C. Mitchell	"
150	Nelson Mead...	"
114	W. N. & D. G. Osborn.....	"
60	Mrs. G. Osborn	"
80	J. W. Osborn..	"
100	F. Parks.....	"
55	Daniel Potts...	"
100	A. Ramey.....	Mt. Liberty
135	W. Ramey.....	"
80	B. Ramey.....	"
168	Jessie Sellers..	Sparta
175	W. Sweetland..	"
90	C. G. Sears.....	Bloomfield
55	Smith Sears....	"
65	Elex. Times...	Sparta
130	W. H. Benidict	Stantont'n
45	A. Benedict....	"
70	Elmer Bunker.	Benning'n
56	W. A. Barton..	Ashley
100	Isaac Clark....	Stantont'n
40	F. Chambers...	Fargo
150	L. Coomer.....	Ashley
55	H. Christ.....	Stantont'n
180	David Denis...	Ashley
50	E. E. Earl.....	Marengo
80	W. S. Fleming	Stantont'
190	H. Fleming....	Stantont'n
68	L. O. Funk.....	Ashley
110	J. B. Force.....	"
275	R. B. & R. N. Gardner.....	Benning'n
150	G. S. Harrison.	Stantont'n
137	F. P. Hill.....	Fargo
45	Frank Holt.....	Benning'n
70	W. Heverlaw..	Stantont'n
52	W. F. James...	Benning'n
100	E. M. James...	"
100	E. & A. Julian.	Stantont'n
117	Jinkens & Davis	"
70	A. Lee.....	Fargo
98	S. F. Mosher...	Benning'n
142	J. F. McDonald,	Stantont'n
190	L. L. Miller....	Ashley
120	Oliver & Stewart	"
160	E. Osborn.....	Stantont'n
50	John Osborn...	"
50	F. C. Osborn...	Benning'n
80	John Osborn...	Stantont'n
60	R. Sherman....	Ashley
145	J. Riely.....	Stantont'n
80	E. W. Shults...	Ashley
70	S. W. Sipes....	Benning'n
200	L. Q. Sherman.	"
60	Geo. Wood.....	"
58	S. Westbrook..	"
60	R. Wood.....	Stantont'n
60	G. R. Wood....	"
120	Caroline Wood	"
116	F. Whipper....	Ashley
60	Saml. Vaugh...	"
57	Thos. Wood....	Benning'n
70	Chas. Wood....	"
70	L. Whipple.....	Stantont'n
230	W. Westbrook.	Marengo
65	M. Alshouse...	Whetstone
70	J'than Brewer.	Andrews
45	J. W. Beck.....	"
75	Hull Bates.....	"
70	John T. Biddle.	"
109	Wm. Beck.....	Whetstone
58	J. M. Crawford,	Mt. Gilead
50	Allen Corwin..	"
55	C. D. Dise.....	Andrews
65	Thos. Daken...	"
135	R. H. Fish.....	"
115	J. R. Garvick..	Whetstone
48	James Graham.	Andrews
55	M. Graham.....	"
180	John Goff.....	Whetstone
70	John Green....	Andrews
60	A. Hershner...	"
59	Calvin Hull....	"
229	Isaac Hull.....	Mt. Gilead
70	Violet James..	Andrews
60	George Krout..	"
77	W. E. Logan...	Andrews
202	Mary Lener...	"
70	Elzy Lener....	"
83	Elmer Lemon.	Mt. Gilead

No. Sheep.	Name.	Post Office.
103	George Lemon	Mt. Gilead
180	N. McClelan	Whetstone
60	J. D. Maxwell	Andrews
145	W. J. Myers	"
160	Jacob Miller	Shauck's
95	S. F. Moffit	Mt. Gilead
100	Thos. Parks	Andrews
64	T. B. Peoples	Whetstone
50	J. Rhodebeck	"
73	C. M. Rhodebeck	"
50	H. C. Rhodebeck	Whetstone
61	Isaac Rule	"
85	J. B. & H. E. Smith	Andrews
48	D. Strickler	Whetstone
47	Henry Trimble	Andrews
50	N. E. Wolford	"
50	R. M. Beckley	Cardingt'n
70	F. C. Brown	Benning'n
90	W. H. Brown	"
54	Robert Blakley	Cardingt'n
50	I. D. Bennett	Fulton
54	C. J. Baldin	"
131	Jacob Click	Cardingt'n
39	J. W. Denton	Fulton
64	Thos. Edgell	Cardingt'n
70	David Evans	"
120	W. H. Fulton	"
250	Robt. Gardner & Son	Benning'n
57	F. P. Howard	"
85	Henry Hast	"
95	A. C. Hast	"
100	Mason Henry	"
135	C. F. Hammond	"
175	T. L. James	Benning'n
40	S. E. James	"
55	M. C. Kingman	"
125	E. Y. Kingman	Cardingt'n
60	W. C. Ladd	Fulton
75	W. W. Liggett	"
50	T. A. Liggett	"
100	P. Nichals	"
99	C. F. Ossing	Cardingt'n
100	S. D. Powell	Fulton
45	J. M. Pipes	"
39	J. B. Rinehart	"
66	W. H. Shaw	"
117	J. J. Wisman	Cardingt'n
130	George Jake	"
350	S. B. Appleman	Corsica
89	Jas. Atkinson	Galion
125	Abner Allison	"
60	Fred'k Beck	Whetstone
50	D. K. Baggs	Corsica
70	R. E. Cook	Galion
60	J. A. Chambers	Corsica
45	Albert Elder	"
39	E. R. Gerverick	Whetstone
60	J. S. Harbinson	Corsica
85	J. F. M'Clarren	Whetstone.
60	Jacob Miller	Galion
40	David Mitchell	"
128	F. Reinhart	Corsica
50	S. A. Richardson	"
48	Hiram Rule	Shauck's
71	W. H. Rule	"
84	E. A. Rule	"
60	Samuel Stoller	Galion
135	S. A. Stone	"
65	S. S. Snyder	"
50	Ruben Stull	Steam Cor.
65	T. M. Wood	Corsica
200	Calvin Blair	Chest'rv'lle
75	E. W. Brown	Levering
97	F. H. Baxter	Mt. Gilead
47	J. T. Biggins	Ch'st'rv'lle
87	S. Bouer	"
40	Eli Burns	Mt. Gilead
63	Ellery Brown	"
125	N. T. Barnes	P'l'skiv'lle
100	G. F. Barnes	Mt. Gilead
63	N. W. Crisswell	"
97	M'ria Coleman,	"
65	S. J. Cook	Levering
80	Wm. Colopy	Mt. Gilead
300	G. & M. Coleman	Smailes
64	Edd Craven	P'l'skiville
110	J. B. Denman	Smailes
50	E. R. Dunham	"
85	J. B. Dunham	"
70	Day Sylvester	"
50	H. G. Eagleson	Mt. Gilead
163	Chas. Ewers	"
67	I. E. Fisher	"
78	Wm. Fredricks	"
200	S. A. Goorley	Mt. Gilead
85	John Gale	P'l'skiville
85	A. Gale	"
151	A. J. Gordan	Mt. Gilead
319	J. Grove	P'l'skiville
100	Israel Gordon	Ch'st'rville
57	George Gates	P'l'skiville
50	L. Gates	"
183	Milton Groves	"
180	J. N. Gordan	Ch'st'rville
90	B. Graham	"
46	M. Hansburg	P'l'skiville
70	I. M. Ink	Ch'st'rville
291	J. R. Johnson	"
60	H. J. Keys	P'l'skiville
90	B. C. Kelly	"
100	D. F. Kirby	Levering
92	Jacob Kunze	Ch'st'rville
80	Jonathan Lamasters	Mt. Gilead
60	J. S. Lauker	P'l'skiville
135	George Liner	"
40	J. C. Lerch	"
100	T. Morrison	Mt. Gilead
55	Johnson Mann	P'l'skiville
74	Robert Pocock	"
71	Ruben Pace	Mt. Gilead
67	E. W. Powell	"
56	T. H. Peoples	Ch'st'rville
25	Marion Peoples	P'l'skville
67	Milton Peoples	"
120	F. M. Russell	Mt. Gilead
70	John Rowland	Mt. Gilead
32	Peter Sipes	P'l'skiville
90	W. T. Shaffer	Ch'st'rville
72	J. T. Shaffer	"
90	L. R. Selaver	"
98	Elisha Stevens	"
112	J. N. Talmage	"
50	W. M. Virtue	P'l'skiville
100	A. W. Wyker	Levering
82	J. O. Wilson	"
238	Y. C. Wait	Ch'st'rville
160	Y. C. Wait	"
45	R. Willison	"
47	Clark Truex	P'l'skiville
42	C. D. Russel	Mt. Gilead
43	M. Levering	Levering.
71	V. L. Brooks	Climax
160	Clark Cox	"
61	S. S. Cox	"
150	Samuel Feigley	"
70	S. S. Graves	Caledonia
300	Fred'k Glathart	"
46	A. M. Koon	Marit's
80	Henry Lepp	Climax
155	Frank Lefeor	Climax
306	W. G. Lefeor	Edison
140	Jacob Lyon	Climax
115	M. Makewaever	"
50	T. D. Morton	"
310	W. McKinstry	Caledonia
80	Jona. Masters	Edison
78	Thos. Price	Climax
50	G. M. Rice	"
100	A. M. Smith	"
40	J. M. Richardson	"
45	James Adams	Card'gton
160	Sam'l Albright	Edison
76	W. S. Aye	Marion
80	Wm. Baird	Caledonia
125	D. W. Bolinger	Edison
80	John Cristy	Caledonia
250	O. Earlymine	Edison
85	A. Hardman	"
35	Thos. Ewers	Marit's
20	F. C. Gibson	"
100	C. C. Leonard	"
43	E. S. Masters	Edison
76	W. J. Myers	Marit's
53	Gilbert Martin	"
35	P. J. Rush	"
64	S. R. Worden	"
275	Rich'd Worden	"
96	T. D. Wagan	"
80	N. C. Bader	"
61	C. Gruber	"
41	M. W. Shaw	"
100	S. B. Shaw	"
44	A. M. Cox	Iberia
65	M. M. Myers	"
150	J. J. Mardens	"
75	Samuel Nesbit	"
40	Wm. Paxton	"
75	J. D. Armstrong	Mt. Gilead
150	M. J. Blayney	Surprise
40	R. C. Blayney	"
60	W. F. Blayney	"
61	W. A. Braden	St. James
125	S. D. Cass	Iberia
130	S. C. Crim	Galion
57	H. A. Carter	Mt. Gilead
54	E. A. Crisswell	Iberia
115	Enoch Dunham	St. James
94	J. S. Forbs	Galion
40	Frank Folly	St. James
97	Josiah Feight	Surprise
75	J. R. Garverick	Whetstone
140	Wm. Goorley	St. James
41	George Hill	"
123	R. Hathaway	"
125	W. A. Irwin	Surprise
50	J. R. Lyon	St. James
100	W. Y. Kelly	Surprise
103	Kisselmire	Galion
92	J. C. Miller	Whetstone
203	John McAnall	Iberia
128	Clem McAnall	"
65	J. T. McAnall	St. James
62	J. T. Quay	Iberia
86	M. J. Quay	St. James
152	R. G. Quay	Iberia
36	S. B. Nelson	"
40	J. W. Poast	St. James
100	James Ball	Sparta
85	J. T. Beers	"
60	Isaac Bowen	"
110	J. F. Brown	Chesterv'le
100	Wm. Baker	"
240	C. D. Coleman	"
50	Clent Corwin	"
150	J. E. Dalryruple	"
120	W. Dalrymple	"
135	Wm. Denman	"

No. Sheep.	Name.	Post Office.
65	J. L. Denman.	Chesterv'le
70	G. C. Daily.....	"
50	A. W. Emerson	"
75	M. Emerson....	"
70	J. W. Evans...	"
150	C. H. Fisher...	"
95	S. L. Gordon...	"
50	D. L. Green....	"
70	Howard & Sears	"
160	Samuel Hughes	"
90	F. M. Howard..	"
90	B. Jinkins.....	Sparta
70	Wm. Jinkins...	Sparta
75	J. C. James....	Chesterv'le
40	J. S. Hall.....	Sparta
60	L. J. James....	Chesterv'le
95	D. J. Kunkle...	"
145	Chas. Levering	"
75	Albert Lewis..	"
70	G. W. McCracken.....	Chesterv'le
200	Jas. Meredith..	"
50	James Main....	"
45	J. K. Miller....	"
65	W. L. McGaughey.....	"
190	N. Melick.....	"
100	Meredith & Cook.....	"
50	John Melick...	Sparta
140	McCracken & Dana.....	Chesterv'le
50	J. McCluthron.	"
60	F. M. Nye.....	"
55	W.M. Ogden...	Chesterv'le
250	George Orr....	"
65	N. V. Runyan..	Sparta
90	Jacob Struble..	"
150	Ira Struble.....	"
75	Henry Sellers..	"
35	Ed Smith	"
65	N. V. Runyan..	"
90	Jacob Struble.	"
150	J. Struble.....	"
90	Henry Sellers..	"
85	H. W. Swetland	"
300	J. C. Swetland & Son.....	"
40	J. M. Struble...	"
70	M. L. Struble..	Chesterv'le
75	W. H. Struble..	"
290	Trobridge & Raymond	"
35	Wm. Taylor...	Sparta
55	Reed Wilson..	Chesterv'le
85	E. P. Brown..	"
150	D. N. Bouer....	"
80	A. L. Caton....	"
80	S. M. Day.....	"
100	E. Y. McIntire.	"
90	Henry Burgroff.....	Cardington
130	C. W. Benedict	"
118	G. W. Bolinger	"
53	Nama Cecil....	"
75	F. M. Curl.....	"
54	E. S. Curl.....	"
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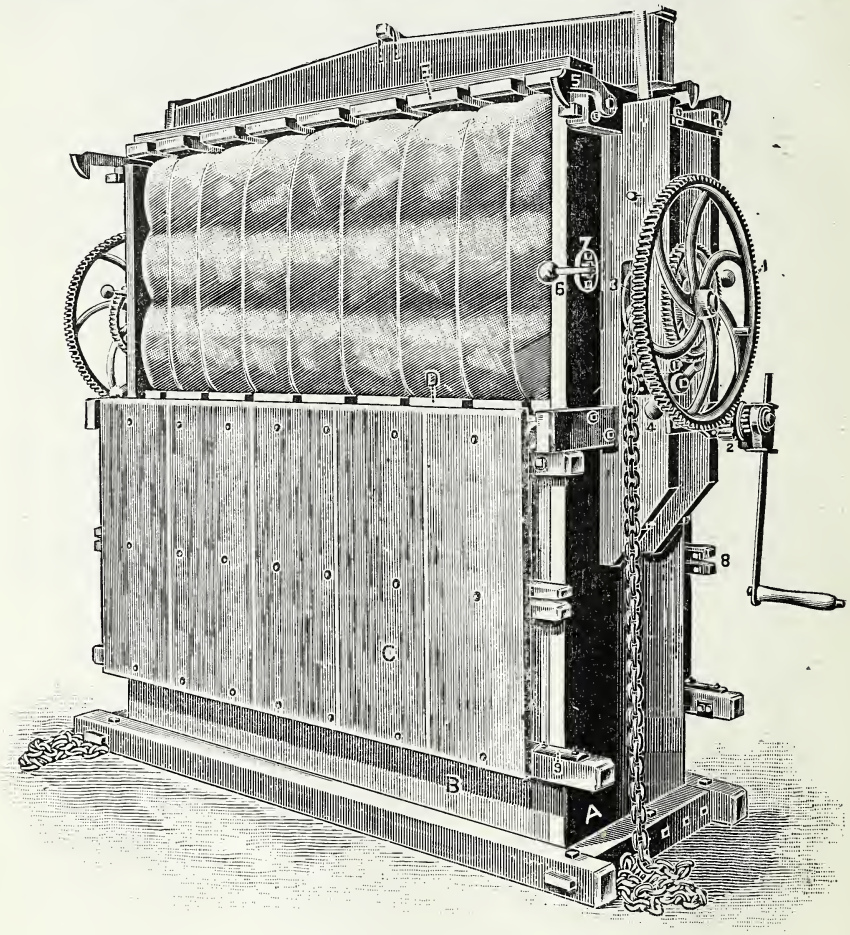

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PREPARING WOOL FOR MARKET.

The AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER has devoted much attention to this subject, and presents the following suggestions:—

The experience of recent years has shown conclusively that American wool growers must pay more attention to the manner in which their wools are prepared for market. The increased importation of foreign wools, in spite of higher duties, was due in a measure to the superior manner in which these foreign wools are prepared for the inspection of the buyer.

With the duties now entirely removed, the domestic grower must inevitably improve his methods of preparing wool for market. Keep out of the fleeces all dung locks, loose tags, sticks and stuff from the floor of the shearing pen. All of these tags and refuse should be packed separately, as also the bucks' fleeces, and sold on their merits. If dung locks adhere to the wool in shearing, either clip them off and throw them away or pack them separately. The grower will get an immediate advantage in price by taking this course as well as by keeping out of his fleeces the refuse of the shearing shed.

Many growers still fail to realize the injury to their wools resulting from the use of sisal twine. This sisal costs only five or six cents per pound, but it is weighed with wool costing from ten to thirty cents per pound, so that the manufacturer has not only to make a reduction in price sufficient to protect himself against loss in weight, but also to guard against the damage to the goods by the sisal fibre.

This unsuitable twine causes a loss all the way from the fleece to the finished garment, which must be sold at a lower price because of the imperfections caused by the fibres of this twine getting into the cloth.

American hemp twine possesses many advantages for use in tying fleeces, and, everything considered, cost, etc., is, perhaps, to be preferred to any other. It has strength, lightness and a glazed surface, while its cost is very much in its favor.

If dealers in wool and growers' supplies in your neighborhood do not have the twine for sale which we recommend, make them get it for you. If not, send your order to either of the offices of the WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER, and we will turn it over to a manufacturer of the twine, who will forward it to you at sixteen cents per pound.

There are about 1,600 feet of twine in a pound, and allowing a most generous estimate of ten feet to each fleece, the cost per fleece would be only ⅛ cent. The Australian wool growers use about five feet to tie each fleece. All the twine required is enough to bind the fleece so that it can be easily handled in transportation.

Growers are also cautioned against using tar or paint in marking or branding their sheep, as the paint and tar locks must be clipped off and thrown away before the wool can be used. Sulphur dips are also to be discouraged, as they make the wool hard to scour. In preparing your wools for market, roll up the fleece without the use of a box, keep out the tags, use a small quantity of light twine, and you will take a very important step toward improving the popularity of American wools.

AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER.

Devoted to all the Materials, Products and Processes of Textile Manufacture. The Organ of the Textile Interests of the United States.

The AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER was established in 1887 by Mr. Frank P. Bennett, whose previous training had been such as to render him, perhaps, better fitted for conducting a newspaper of this kind than any other man in the United States. In addition to thorough newspaper training, and considerable experience on the farm and in the woolen mill, Mr. Bennett had become one of the foremost writers upon financial and economic topics in New England. Just previous to the establishment of the REPORTER, the late John L. Hayes took occasion to refer in a most complimentary manner in the "Bulletin of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers" to Mr. Bennett's ability as an economic writer, and to his series of articles entitled "Walks Among Woolen Mills," a description of all of the processes of woolen manufacturing, which had attracted wide attention. The AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER is and always has been a thorough believer in that doctrine of protection to home industries which has made our nation great and prosperous.

In 1892, Mr. Bennett established an experimental sheep farm in Freedom, Maine, his object being to demonstrate the value of the old homesteads which are so often deserted in that state and to prove the practicability of a form of sheep husbandry in New England, equally distinct from the ranch system of the West or the small flocks of farm sheep in New England. His experiments with these abandoned farms have attracted wide attention, and have led to a growing interest in sheep husbandry in that section, even with the present depressed condition of wool and mutton. In establishing the AMERICAN WOOL AND COTTON REPORTER, Mr. Bennett's aim was to make a newspaper devoted to all of the materials, products and processes of textile manufacturing, from the fleece to the finished fabric, or from the back of the sheep to the back of the consumer.

As the first and only journal of the kind in the United States, the REPORTER became an immediate and lasting success. Its unswerving devotion to the wool and cotton interests as a whole have gained for it the respect and approval of its readers, and though occasional imitators and rivals have arisen, the REPORTER remains to-day substantially the only journal in its chosen field.

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Oliver, E. P., Flint.
O'Neil, J. V., Roxanna.
Osborn, G. W., Concord.
Payne, J. L. & Son, Parshallville.
Pearshall, Mary A., Easton.
Phelps, E. A., Dexter.
Phelps, Rufus, Dexter.
Phillips & Knickerbocker, Flint.
Pickett, Jos., Caledonia.
Pierson, Hiram, Pittsburgh.
Powell, H. E., Ionia.
Reed, H. E., Howell.
Richard, T. F., Chubb's Corner.
Robbins, O. B., Edwardsburg.
Robinson, H. N., Ithaca.
Rolason, H., Howell.
Rock, W., Marshall.
Rooke, E. M., Ypsilanti.
Rowe, John, Brent Creek.
Rowe, J. H., Flushing.
Rundell, H. J., Pontiac.
Rundel, J. F. & Son, Birmingham.
Russell, Dwight, Napoleon.
Sabin, E. D., Hudson.
Sawyer, A. J. Hamburg.
Scott, F. E. & Son, Romeo.
Sheldon, H. O., Paw Paw.
Sherrill, E. S., Detroit.
Skinner, Horace, Maple Rapids.
Smith, R. R., Howell.
Snell, J. S., Marshall.
Snuff, John W., Niles.
Southworth, Myron, Charlotte.
Spratt, E. O., Spring Arbor.
Stewart, Hiram, Venice Center
Stickle, C. H., Pinckney.
Strong, T. D., Tecumseh.
Sutherland, L. W., Oxford.
Sutton, D. B., Ann Arbor.
Sutton, N. M., Tecumseh.
Taft, Frank, Ionia.
Tobias, Mrs. E. J., Lansing.
Turner, Jas. M., Lansing.
Twamley, H. M. & Son, Chelsea.

Underwood, W. D., Easton.
Valentine Bros., Dexter.
Van Allen, L. L., Greenville.
Van Hees, A. C., Allegan.
Van Liew, H. S., Bennington.
Van Raalte, Ben, Holland.
Van Wagoner, Jas., Kingston.
Voorhees, G. M., Ypsilanti.
Waldo, C. E. & F. D., Grand Ledge.
Walker, James & Son, Jackson.
Walton, John, Calkinsville.
Wannemacher, D., N. Jackson.
Ware, M. S., St. Johns.
Warren, W. W., Union City.
Watson, Geo. C., Caro.
Webber, J. A., Portland.
Weber Bros., Middleville.
Welsh, D. J., Ionia.
Whitfield, Frank, Pontiac.
Whittum, E. A., Eaton Rapids.
Wiesman, J. H., Brighton.
Wilbur, DeWitt, Ionia.
Wilcox, B. F., Centreville.
Wilcox, Horace, Woodstock.
Willard, J. A., Mankato.
Williams & Buckingham, Kalamazoo.
Willits, W. J., Three Rivers.
Wilson & Tuttle, Belding.
Windiate, D. E., Pontiac.
Wood, Wm., Chelsea.
Woodberry, E. D., Portland.
Wooden, A. M., Mosherville.
Woodman, W. W., Saranac.
Woods & Newlove, Brighton.
Wyman, W. W., Sebewa.

MINNESOTA.

Barnum, A. K., St. Paul.
Bivens, E. M., Crookston.
Boynton, W. J., Rochester.
Cooper, Edward, Adrian.
Davis, M. H., Dodge Center.
Dinehart, C. E., Slaytown.
Donald, Jas., Canton.
Edson, A. W., Austin.
Elwell, Fred, Zumbrota.
Forbes, J. R., Island Lake.
Henderson, W. A. & Son, Waseca.
Kelso, W. C., Hallock.
Kerr, Chas., LeSueur.
McKee, J. H. & Son, Crookston.
Paul, Hugh, Heron Lake.
Shaw, Prof. Thos., St. Anthony Park.
Sinclair, C. E., Byron.
Spaulding, A. R., Lake City.
Tyson & Dickerson, Redwood Falls.
Whitcher, E. T., Farmington.
Youmans, E. S., Winona.

MISSISSIPPI.

Harrod, T. H., Newton.

MISSOURI.

Bennett, U. P. & Sons, Independence.
Buechley, E. M., Greenville.
Clark, W. T., Munroe City.
Donaldson, Jos., Pleasant Retreat.
Dysart, Samuel A., Lancaster.
Elliott, W. B. & Sons, Clarksville.
Garnett, John, Durgan's Creek.
Hall, D. F., Kilwinning,
Harris, W. A., Dardenne.
Hood, C. E. M., Gallilin.
MacDermaid, J., (Hon. Mem.) Kansas City.
McElroy, H. T. & Bro., Stark.
McQuitty, D. W., Hughesville.
Morgan, W. H., Granville.
Musick, Chas. E., Hughesville.
Quick, W. J., Columbia.
Stemmons, T. J., Avilla.
Taylor, H. C., Koping.
Turner, W. R., Shelbyville.
Turner, J. W., Shelbyville.
Vinson, J. D., Centralia.

NEBRASKA.

Ballinger, C. H., Lexington.
King, Chas. L., Graf.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Coe, Daniel W., Centre Harbor.
Fisk, J. W., Charleston.
Keyes, H. W., North Haverhill.
Parker, Ward, Reed's Ferry.
Perry, E. R., North Charleston.

NEW JERSEY.

Stuyvesant, R., Allamuchy.

NEW YORK.

Allen, M. & Son, Seward.
Allen, S. B., Burdett.
Armer, Fred, Ballston Spa.
Baird, D. S., Johnston.
Baldwin, L. H., Nanticoke.
Bannister, A. D., Albion.
Barkley, Jas. B., Argyle.
Barnes, A. D., Smithville Flats.
Barry, E. D., Almond.
Barton, J. C., Kanona.
Bean, C. M. & W. L., McGrawville.
Billings, M. J., East Gaines.
Bishop, Geo. A., Syracuse.
Bower, Geo. L., Lansingville.
Brown, Will S., Elbridge.
Buckley, T. B., Valley Falls.
Bunnell, J., Lansingville.
Burdick, G. W., Wirt Center.
Burr, Geo., North Hector.
Buttrick, C. A., New York.
Calkins, D. M., Perry.
Camp, M. S., Oak Hill.
Carrington, Ell, Bath.
Cassady, F. D., Elmira.
Casson, M. & J. C., Presho.
Champlin, J. P. & Son, Ruth.
Coe, R. E., Kirkville.
Collin, F. M., Benton Centre.
Cooper, Jos. & Sons, Perry C'tre
Cornell University, Ithaca.
Cornell, Willis, Baldwinsville.
Cox, A. B., Cherry Valley.
Cross, E. E., Sharon.
Crossman, H. D., Sennett.
Cummings, Arthur, Cuylerville.
Cuthbert, A. S., North Argyle.
Cuthbert, W. S., Hammond.
Dates, W. M., Heddens.
Davis & Moon, Medina.
Davison, G. Howard, Millbrook
Deitrich, Chas. F., Millbrook.
Donald, T. H., Redwood.
Downing, A. S., Palmyra.
Edsall, J. B., Pine City.
Evarts, Oman, Manning.
Frink, F. H., Blood's.
Fuller, J. B., Holley.
Garrison, R. E., Brockport.
Gifford, Albert, Valley Falls.
Gifford, Geo., South Easton.
Giles & Son, Appalachian.
Goundry, John, Naples.
Gridley, C. F., West Candor.
Hall, F. S., Lewiston.
Harmon, G. B., Brockport.
Hartshorn, B. J., Brockport.
Haskins, C. A., Lansingville.
Haviland, H. G., Glen Falls.
Haviland, W. J., Glen Falls.
Hawley, E. F., Pittsford.
Hayden, E. C., Wyoming.
Healy, W. W., South Danville.
Herman, Wm., Cleveland.
Hill, Ed. S., Peruville.
Hilton, Jas., New Scotland.
Hilton, Jos., New Scotland.
Himrod, Elmer, Burdett.
Holmes, Milton, Charleston.
Holmes, Robt., Jr., Castile.
Hosford, C. F., Mexico.
Hoyt, G. L., LaFayette.
Ingersoll, Geo., Fonda.
Johnson, C. H., Busti.
Jones, P. D., Mt. Morris.
Kent, A. M., Jamestown.
Kilmer, Wm. H., Kinderhook.
Ladd, J. M., Victor.
Lagrange, C. C., Slingerland.
Lawrence & Crosby, Barrington.
Lockie, Colin J., Elmdale.

Lytle, N. P. & A. J., Angelica.
Makyes, E. L., Onondago.
Marsh, T. A., Ovid Centre.
Marsh, W. C., Covert.
Mathers, S. & Sons, Bellville.
Maston Bros., Schodack Landing
Midler, A. J., Eastwood.
Miller, Geo. N., Rhinebeck.
Mulkin, M. C., Friendship.
McElheny, F. L., Black Creek.
McHenry, Lewis, Almond.
Nichols, G. M., Palmyra.
Norton, H. C., Byron.
Norton, S. M., Friendship.
Norton, W. H., Springwater.
Norton, W. H., Allentown.
Osborn, W. B., Victor.
Paddock, P. P., Malone.
Paine, W. H., Nunda.
Parrish, W. S., Canandaigua.
Perrin, W. A., Rochester.
Peters, Wm. H., Elmira.
Pratt, H. C., Canandaigua.
Purinton, L. E., Middle Falls.
Randall, S. W., East Kendall.
Rathbun, E. B., Otego.
Ray, R. J., Springwater.
Rouse, Eugene, Cohocton.
Rumsey, L. D., Buffalo.
Rutherford, W. L. & W., Waddington.
Ryder Chas. & Son, Barnerville.
Seeley, R. F., Waterloo.
Sherman, W. D., Shushan.
Sickler, C. D., Malta.
Silsby, Seth, Orangeport.
Sisson, H. B., Easton.
Smead, C. D., Logan.
Sprague, Sidney, Falconer.
Starin, J. H., Fultonville.
Stevens, H. C., Greenwich.
Stoddard, Orrin, Busti.
Stoddard, O. J. & Son, Busti.
Stuart, James, Hamlin.
Sutliff. Jesse, Cherry Valley.
Talcott, G. B., Owego.
Talcott, J. & Son, Rome.
Tallcot, Geo. M., Skaneateles.
Terry & Steele, Byron.
Thayer, Chas. I., Cooperstown.
Thomas, E. H., Hornby.
Thorn, W. G., Skaneateles.
Thorne, Oakleigh, Millbrook.
Tilden, S. J., West Lebanon.
Tucker, W. G., Elm Valley.
Tuttle, Chas. N., Hornellsville.
Van Atten, J. & B., Jerusalem.
Van-de-Boe, Geo., Claverack.
Van Vleet & Gulick, Lodi.
Vincent, J. L., Scott.
Vosburg, Dr. H. P., Halsey Val.
Wadsworth, G. W., Geneseo.
Wait, James A., Otego.
Waite, H. & Son, West Valley.
Ward, Frank D., South Byron.
Watkins, G. J., Bradford.
Weaver, V. W., Plattsburg.
Whitney, G. G., Horsehead.
Wiard, M., Jr., Avon.
Williamson, T. F., Middle Falls
Wingate, C. W., Avon.
Woodford, A. H., West Candor.
Wormer, E. F., Guilderland Centre.

NORTH DAKOTA.

Ackerman, Geo., Melville.
Kingman, R. T., Hillsboro.
Palmer, E. C., Williston.
Rudd, Carl E., Sheldon.
Smith, Harvey, Sterling.
Welsh & Palmer, Williston.

OHIO.

Ames, Cyrus, Rockland.
Andrews, S. F., Gratis.
Augenstine, W. D., Waldo.
Au & Norrick, Barnes.
Bates, Asa, Irwin.
Beardsley, P. A. & Son, West Andover.
Bennington, T. B., Grafton.
Betts, C. R., Stryker.
Bevington, Geo., Springfield.
Billman, S. H., Orrville.
Bird, Rollin, Springfield.
Blank, G. W., Uniopolis.
Blue, V. D., Hamler.
Brock, A. H., Bath.
Brubaker. Geo., West Millgrove
Butler, E. S., Ridgeway.
Cable, H. C., Sandyville.
Chambers, Ers & Bro., Mansfield.
Chamberlin, J. D., State Center.
Clark, D., Hibbitts.
Clark, Wm., Kunkle.
Clifford & Gillett, Wellington.
Clough, H. H., Elyria.
Coffland, J. S., East Richland.
Cole, W. B., Bloomingdale.
Comstock, J. L., West Richfield.
Craven & Stamm, Fredericktown
Curl, F. N., Cardington.
Cusick, B., Marion.
Danford, A. C., Loydsville.
Davis, Z., Delaware.
Davisson, Wm., Mechanicsburg.
Dayton, W. H., Welshfield.
Denny, Geo. M., Harveysburg.
Downs, R. S. Chillicothe.
Dunham & Bechtol, Galion.
Ellett, E. J., Berlin Center.
Elliot, Chas. & Son, Bladensburg.
Elliott, Edwin, Morning Sun.
Ensign, H. N., Claridon.
Evans, D. W., Venedocia.
Evans, J. H., Ripley.
Evans, Nathan, Bolivar.
Falter, J. B., Carrothers.
Firestone, D. S., Columbiana.
Frase, Orrin, Doylestown.
Germann, H., Jr., Frances.
Gesler, Rudolph, Wapakoneta.
Graham, Fred A., Maumee.
Graham & Williamson, West Millgrove.
Gray, E. F., Republic.
Griffin, F. E., Oberlin.
Grove, W. F., Bolivar.
Hanes, W. C., Spencer.
Harris, B. F., West Liberty.
Harsh, D. D., Minerva.
Hayes, Enos, Cleves.
Henry, N. C., Geauga Lake.
Henry, Richard & Son, North Benton.
Herron, T. W., Freeland.
Hills, C. & Son, Delaware.
Hogue, John, Cadwallader.
Horn, B. H., Tiffin.
Howard, W. F., Milford Centre.
Howick, D. S., Celina.
Hughes, F. J., East Claridon.
Hughes, I. F., East Claridon.
Humm, J. S., Hayesville.
Huner, H., Ridgeville Corners.
Huston, J. E., New Lisbon.
Jones Bros. & Co., Radnor.
Jones, D. D., Alexandria.
Jones, E. O., Radnor.
Kantner, Benj., Wapakoneta.
Kellogg, F. E., Claridon.
Kent, E. E., Chagrin Falls.
Koogle, O., Ohio City.
Kreis, Dan, Cardington.
Lanehart, Albert, Bellville.
Lasher, G. V. & Sons, Rutland.
Laylin, T. C., Norfolk.
Lee, O. W., Painesville.
Livingston Bros., Leonardsburg.
Lockhart, W. J., Bellville.
Lyder, L. S., Signal.
Lyons, C. H. & Son, Gageville.
Main, S. C., Delaware.
Manley, Patrick, Youngstown.
Mann, S. J. & Son, Lindenville.
Marshall, J. W. & Sons, Zanesvile.
Masters, Frank, Ashland.
Merritt & Roberts, South Charleston.
Mills, H. A. & Sons, Wadworth.
Mohler, David, Van Wert.
Mougey, Jacob, Wooster.
McBride, D. & Son, Lowellville.
McClintick, W. T., Chillicothe.

McClure, T. W., Carey.
McCulloch, D., Steubenville.
McDowell, J. S. & F. K., Troy.
McDowell, L.C., New California.
McKelvey, J. O. & Bro., Vallonia.
McKillip, Wm., Jeffersonville.
McMillen, B. F., Newark.
McNaull, John, Ashland.
Newberry, W. J., Axtell.
Newell, John & Sons, W. Liberty.
Newton, J. T., Hudson.
O'Connor, Stephen, Fayetteville.
O'Harra, C. W., Galloway.
Parker, R. H., Kinsman.
Patton, Thos., Copley.
Persing, H. S. & Son, Zone.
Phillips, Richard, New Waterford.
Porter, W. L., Atwater.
Postle, F. L , Camp Chase.
Powell, J. L., Benton Ridge.
Pray & Beis Bros., White House.
Rager, Jacob, Williams Centre.
Reichenbach, C. W., Apple Creek.
Reinbolt, Chas., Tiffin.
Reynolds, Jas., Sterling.
Richardson, C. P. & Son, Clarksville.
Richey, F. E., Sun Dale.
Rigdon, Frank, Uniopolis.
Roller, A. J., Elgin.
Ross, John & Son, Bucyrus.
Rowland, J. W., Delaware.
Rumbaugh, G. F., Fredericksburg.
Rumbaugh, J. F., Holmesville.
Schoonover, Thos., Moulton.
Schwark, Chas., Jr., Erastus.
Scott, F. F., Ross.
Scudder, H., Ansonia.
Shelton, V. T., Teegarden.
Sherer, Geo., Magnolia.
Sherman, H. E., Norwalk.
Shook, Silas, Youngstown.
Shutt, A. M., McDonaldsville.
Sidle, J. C., Blachleyville.
Slater, Amos, West Andover.
Smith, F. J., Andover.
Snoke, J. A., Delaware.
Storrs, A. A., Bogart.
Streetor, S. F., Painesville.
Sturges, Willis M., Mansfield.
Swickard, J. W., New Albany.
Tibbals, A. D., Miamisburgh.
Todd, S. H., Wakeman.
Treat, D. & Son, Talmadge.
Trushel, A. T., Dell Roy.
Turney, Will, North Royalton.
Tweed & Whittum, Georgetown.
Wallace R., Delaware.
Wallace, Wm., Chillicothe.
Weaver, J. M., Leipsic.
Weigle, Louis, Montpelier.
White, C. E., Burton.
White, John, Stewartsville.
Wilcox, R. N., Avery.
Williams, James & Sons, Oakland.
Wolfley, S. D. & Bro., Delaware.
Wood, S. R., Wilmington.
Woodworth, J.P.& Son, Geneva.
Wyler, J. E., Mount Hope.
Young, R. C., Mineral Ridge.
Zimmerman, J., Fayette.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Allison, T. H., Kittanning.
Baker, W. J., South Montrose.
Bebout, J. C., Cannonsburgh.
Black, Wm. C., Balm.
Brockman, T. W., Prosperity.
Brooks, W. H., Hartstown.
Bullers, Chas., Kirkman.
Burnett, H. L., Sandy Lake.
Campbell, E. G., Keister.
Carr, A. N., Lyona.
Cassatt, A J., Berwyn.
Christley, W. G., Balm.
Colegrove, J. M., Corry.
Comrey, Andrew, Mahanoy City.
Corman, Theo., Carlisle.
Crouch, W. P., Randolph.
DeArmann, S. S., Franklin.
Egbert, R., Sandy Lake.
Fox, J. A., Raymilton.
Getty, S. W., Chambersville.
Giebner, C. W., Sandy Lake.
Griscom, C. A , Haverford Coll.
Guthrie, S. W., Indiana.
Harshman, E. E., W. Middlesex.
Henderson, J. H., Elder's Ridge.
Hewitt, Wm., New Albany.
Hicks, J. D., Altoona.
Hindman, Jas., Franklin.
Horn, O. D., Garland.
Kimball, F. J., Philadelphia.
Lackawanna Breeders' Ass'n, Waverly.
Lantz, J. F., Waterside.
Logan, W. J., Mercer.
Mars, B. J., Greshman.
Masters, W. W. & Co., Balm.
Mickel, Z. & Sons, Garland.
Milford, J. P., Foxburgh.
Musgrave, Simpson, Rock Hill Furnace.
McConnell, A. P., London.
McCrumb, L. A., Jamestown.
McKown, J. W., Cannonsburgh.
Noyes, H. H., Pleasantville.
Oakes, S. T., Greenville.
Oles, Hiram, Pleasantville.
Orr, W. H., Harrisville.
Pomeroy, J. W., Troy.
Raccoon Farm Association, Bellowsville.
Raydure, W. S., Evansburg.
Rinebold, E. S., Overton.
Robinson, H. L., Edinburg.
Rockwell, W. H., Ulster.
Rodgers, D. H., Rose Point.
Rowland, L., Warren.
Rupert Bros., Mercer.
Rush, A. S., West Middletown.
Shaffer, S., Princeton.
Shaw, Joseph, Houstonville.
Shaw, Thos., Arden.
Snyder, W. G., Sandy Lake.
Templeton, J. Y., Mercer.
Walter, C. M., Seal.
Wood, Howard, Conshohocken.
Woodworth, J. A., Sayre.
Wright, A. W., Sandy Lake.
Wylie, R. D., Washington.

RHODE ISLAND.

Ballou, F. S., Slatersville.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Beebe, E. E., Wolsey.
Benedict, W. & Son, Rowena.
Colton, J. E., Taopi.
Crisp, Walter, Dell Rapids.
Duguid & Green, Highmore.
England, O. O., Templeton.
Goodrich, F. W., Farmingdale.
Hinkley, C. L., Alexandria.
Hulit, A. B., Huron.
Landman, Paul, Scotland.
Plant, L., Millbank.
Roberts, D. & Son, Faulkton.
Schleicher, Emil, Watertown.
Sheppard, G. M., Clear Lake.
Smith, F. H., Groton.
South Dakota Agr'l Col., Brookings.
Spurling, E. L., Brookings.
Wagner, J. D., Frankfort.
Willis Bros., Gary.
Wolcott, W. B., White Lake.

TENNESSEE.

Overton, John, 4th, Nashville.
Fulton, J. H., Nashville.

VERMONT.

Belden, DeWitt S., Benson.
Benedict, J. A. & Son, East Poultney.
Bresee, Albert & Son, Hubbardton.
Eaton, J. H., Plainfield.
Gonyeau, F. F., West Milton.
Harris, L. B., Lyndonville.
Macomber & Ballard, Keeler's Bay.
Rowell & Thorp, East Albany.
Speedwell Farms, Lyndonville Center.

Smith, H. F., Benson.
Thorp, Henry, Charlotte.
Webb, W. S., Shelburne.
Wheatley, N.E.&Son, Brookfield.
Wilcox, A. W. & J. P., Bridport.
Young, R. C., Orwell.

VIRGINIA.

Burner & Walton, Woodstock.
Funk, J. S., Singer's Glen.
Green, Wm., Orange C. H.
Gilkeson, M. F., Folly Mills.
McCannell, Wm. A., Washington.
Moorewood, A. P., Gordensville.
Nielson, T. B., Sinking Creek.
Swineford, H., Richmond.
Thompson & Trimble, Swoope.
Wayland, E. J., Swoope.
Wilson, E. B., Fancy Hill.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Allman, F. W., Berlin.
Bennett, Louis, Weston.
Cather, John B., Flemington.
Dunkin, John, Bridgeport.
Echols, J. J., Lewisburg.
Hays, J. L. & Son, Mannington.
Kelley, D. S., Berlin.
Late, W. H., Bridgeport.
Law, T. A., Astor.
Morrison, J. H., Berlin.
McCann, J. M., Bridgeport.
Smith, J. A., Clarksburg.
Ward, W. C. & E. B., Huttonsville.
Woodyard, E. A., Parkersburg.
Woodyard, J. F., Parkersburg.

WISCONSIN.

Adams, Clark E., Burlington.
Anderson, J. A., North Cape.
Best, Chas., Milwaukee,
Broughton, Arthur, Albany.
Carpenter, E. G., Hortonville.
Cass, J. D., Beloit.
Chadwick, W. W., Monroe.
Coffland, J. E., Richland Centre.
Coffland & Lybrand, Richland Centre.
Collard, Chas. & Son, Edmund.
Eldred, A. H., Albany.
Fish, E. C., Reedsburg.
Fowler, H. A., Heart Prairie.
Fox, A. O., Oregon.
Fox, Philip, Madison.
Gardner & Karmerer, Brodhead.
Germania Company, Germania.
Gillett, Eugene, Western Union.
Glover, J. E., Hudson.
Graham Bros., Lancaster.
Huntley, C. S., Elroy.
Hutson, Andrew, Sparta.
Junkman, H. O., Ellsworth.
Kelsey, W. T., Prairie-du-Sac.
Kempley, J. H. & C. H., Packwaukee.
Keyes, C. B., Richland Centre.
Lawrence, Chas., Danville.
Lay, Jacob, Wayne.
Leach, John, Burlington.
Lean, John, Palmyra.
Lobdell, E. L., Mukwanago.
Lybrand, R. C., Richland Centre.
Minckler, G. W., Oshkosh.
Morgan, J. W., Embarrass.
McKerrow, Geo. M., Sussex.
Ogilvie, R. B., Madison.
Page, A. W., Berlin.
Parish, D., Wapaca.
Payne, J. C., Prairie-du Sac.
Pier, W. H., Richland.
Rowntree, J. C., Rochester.
Smith, Albert, Eau Clair.
Smith, N. H., Baraboo.
Smock, Frank H., Monroe.
Stratton, W. M., Burlington.
Sweet, A. L., Kirby.
Tainter, A., Menomonie.
Townsend, Evan, Waupaca.
Trenfield, A., Darien.
Ure, John Jr., Badger Mills.
Ward, C. Eugene, Fort Atkinson.

WYOMING.

Eaton, H., Rawhide Butts.

ENGLAND.

Bowen-Jones, J., (Hon. Mem.) Shropshire.
Mansell, Alfred, (Hon. Mem.) Shrewsbury.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Elder, James, Virden.
Fargey, Peter, LaRiviere.
Oughton, John, Crystal City.
Reid, E. J. Souris.
Smellie, G. L., M'gr, Binscarth.
Smith, Sir D. A., St. James.
Wells, James, Virden.
Wilkinson, H. C., Birtle.

N. W. TERRITORIES.

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Cooper, Wm., Alameda.
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THE WOOL AND WOOLENS SCHEDULE

—OF THE—

TARIFF ACT OF 1894

—COMPARED WITH—

THE TARIFF ACT OF 1890.

With Rates of the Wilson Bill of 1894 and the Mills Bill of 1888

[Law of 1894 in large type; Law of 1890 follows in smaller type; Wilson bill and Mills bill rates in small type.]

SCHEDULE K.—WOOL AND MANUFACTURES OF WOOL.

NOTE.—Paragraphs 375 to 387 see free list, paragraph 685.

375. All wools, hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, and other like animals shall be divided for the purpose of fixing the duties to be charged thereon into the three following classes:

376. Class one, that is to say, Merino, mestiza, metz, or metis wools, or other wools of Merino blood, immediate or remote, Down clothing wools, and wools of like character with any of the preceding, including such as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Buenos Ayres, New Zealand, Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Russia, Great Britain, Canada, and elsewhere, and also including all wools not hereinafter described or designated in classes two and three.

377. Class two, that is to say, Leicester, Cotswold, Lincolnshire, Down combing wools, Canada long wools, or other like combing wools of English blood, and usually known by the terms herein used, and also hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, and other like animals.

378. Class three, that is to say, Donskoi, native South American, Cordova, Valparaiso, native Smyrna, Russian camels hair, and including all such wools of like character as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Syria, and elsewhere, excepting improved wools hereinafter provided for.

379. The standard samples of all wools which are now or may be hereafter deposited in the principal custom-houses of the United States, under the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be the standards for the classification of wools under this act, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall have the authority to renew these standards and to make such additions to them from time to time as may be required, and he shall cause to be deposited like standards in other custom-houses of the United States when they may be needed.

380. Whenever wools of class three shall have been improved by the admixture of Merino or English blood from their present character as represented by the standard samples now or hereafter to be deposited in the principal custom-houses of the United States, such improved wools shall be classified for duty either as class one or as class two, as the case may be.

381. The duty on wools of the first class which shall be imported washed shall be twice the amount of the duty to which they would be subjected if imported unwashed; and the duty on wools of the first and second classes which shall be imported scoured shall be three times the duty to which they would be subjected if imported unwashed.

382. Unwashed wools shall be considered such as shall have been shorn from the sheep without any cleansing; that is, in their natural condition. Washed wools shall be considered such as have been washed with water on the sheep's back. Wool washed in any other manner than on the sheep's back shall be considered as scoured wool.

383. The duty upon wool of the sheep or hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, and other like animals which shall be imported in any other than ordinary condition, or which shall be changed in its character or condition for the purpose of evading the duty, or which shall be reduced in value by the admixture of dirt or any other foreign substance, or which has been sorted or increased in value by the rejection of any part of the original fleece, shall be twice the duty to which it would be otherwise subject: *Provided*, That skirted wools as now imported are hereby excepted. Wools on which a duty is assessed amounting to three times or more than that which would be assessed if said wool was imported unwashed, such duty shall not be doubled on account of its being sorted. If any bale or package of wool or hair specified in this act imported as of any specified class, or claimed by the importer to be dutiable as of any specified class shall contain any wool

(Large type, law of 1894; small type, law of 1890.)

or hair subject to a higher rate of duty than the class so specified, the whole bale or package shall be subject to the highest rate of duty chargeable on wool of the class subject to such higher rate of duty, and if any bale or package be claimed by the importer to be shoddy, mungo, flocks, wool, hair, or other material of any class specified in this act, and such bale contain any admixture of any one or more of said materials, or of any other material, the whole bale or package shall be subject to duty at the highest rate imposed upon any article in said bale or package.

384. The duty upon all wools and hair of the first class shall be eleven cents per pound, and upon all wools or hair of the second class twelve cents per pound.

385. On wools of the third class and on camel's hair of the third class the value whereof shall be thirteen cents or less per pound, including charges, the duty shall be thirty-two per centum ad valorem.

386. On wools of the third class, and on camel's hair of the third class, the value whereof shall exceed thirteen cents per pound, including charges, the duty shall be fifty per cent ad valorem.

387. Wools on the skin shall pay the same rate as other wools, the quantity and value to be ascertained under such rules as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

279. On flocks (1), mungo (2), shoddy (3), garnetted waste (4), and carded waste (5), and carbonized noils (6), or carbonized wool (7), fifteen per centum ad valorem, and on wool of the sheep, hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other like animals, in the form of roving, roping, or tops (8), twenty per centum ad valorem.

388. On noils, shoddy, top waste, slubbing waste, roving waste, ring waste, yarn waste, garnetted waste, and all other wastes composed wholly or in part of wool, the duty shall be thirty cents per pound.

389. On woolen rags, mungo, and flocks, the duty shall be ten cents per pound.

390. Wools and hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other like animals, in the form of roping, roving, or tops, and all wool and hair which have been advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond the washed or scoured condition, not specially provided for in this act, shall be subject to the same duties as are imposed upon manufactures of wool not specially provided for in this act.

Wilson bill rates: (1) 15 per cent; (2) 15 per cent; (3) 15 per cent; (4) 15 per cent; (5) 15 per cent; (6) 15 per cent; (7) 15 per cent; (8) value not more than 35 cents per pound, 25 per cent; value exceeding 35 cents per pound, 30 per cent.

Mills bill rate: Free.

280. On woolen and worsted yarns made wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not more than forty cents per pound, thirty per centum ad valorem; valued at more than forty cents per pound, forty per centum ad valorem.

391. On woolen and worsted yarns made wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not more than thirty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be two and one-half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto, thirty-five per centum ad valorem; valued at more than thirty cents and not more than forty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be three times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto thirty-five per centum ad valorem; valued at more than forty cents per pound the duty per pound shall be three and one-half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rates: Value not more than 40 cents, 30 per cent; value exceeding 40 cents, 30 per cent.

Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

281. On knit fabrics, and all fabrics made on knitting machines or frames, not including wearing apparel, and on shawls made wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not exceeding forty cents per pound, thirty-five per centum ad valorem; valued at more than forty cents per pound, forty per centum ad valorem.

392. On woolen or worsted cloths, shawls, knit fabrics, and all fabrics made on knitting machines or frames, and all manufactures of every description made wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, not specially provided for in this act, valued at not more than thirty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be three times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem; valued at more than thirty and not more than forty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be three and one-half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem; valued at above forty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be four times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto fifty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 40 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

(Large type, law of 1894; small type, law of 1890.)

282. On blankets, hats of wool, and flannels for underwear and felts for printing machines, composed wholly or in part of wool, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not more than thirty cents per pound (1), twenty-five per centum ad valorem; valued at more than thirty and not more than forty cents per pound (2), thirty per centum ad valorem; valued at more than forty cents per pound (3), thirty-five per centum ad valorem: *Provided*, That on blankets over three yards in length the same duties shall be paid as on woolen and worsted cloths, and on flannels weighing over four ounces per square yard, the same duties as on dress goods.

393. On blankets, hats of wool, and flannels for underwear composed wholly or in part of wool, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not more than thirty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be the same as the duty imposed by this act on one pound and one-half of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto thirty per centum ad valorem; valued at more than thirty and not more than forty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be twice the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class; valued at more than forty cents and not more than fifty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be three times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class; and in addition thereto upon all the above-named articles thirty-five per centum ad valorem.. On blankets and hats of wool composed wholly or in part of wool, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca or other animals, valued at more than fifty cents per pound, the duty per pound shall be three and a half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem. Flannels composed wholly or in part of wool, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at above fifty cents per pound shall be classified and pay the same duty as women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloths, and goods of similar character and description provided by this act.

Wilson bill rates: (1) 25 per cent; (2) 30 per cent; (3) 35 per cent.
Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

283. On women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloth, bunting, or goods of similar description or character, and on all manufactures, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, including such as have India rubber as a component material, and not specially provided for in this Act, valued at not over fifty cents per pound, forty per centum ad valorem; valued at more than fifty cents per pound, fifty per centum ad valorem.

394. On women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloths, and goods of similar character or description of which the warp consists wholly of cotton or other vegetable material, with the remainder of the fabric composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, valued at not exceeding fifteen cents per square yard, seven cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem; valued at above fifteen cents per square yard, eight cents per square yard, and in addition thereto fifty per centum ad valorem: *Provided*, That on all such goods weighing over four ounces per square yard the duty per pound shall be four times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto fifty per centum ad valorem.

395. On women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloth, bunting, and goods of similar description or character composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, and not specially provided for in this act, the duty shall be twelve cents per square yard, and in addition thereto fifty per centum ad valorem: *Provided*, That on all such goods weighing over four ounces per square yard the duty per pound shall be four times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto fifty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 40 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

284. On clothing, ready made, and articles of wearing apparel of every description, made up or manufactured wholly or in part, not specially provided for in this Act, felts not specially provided for in this Act, all the foregoing composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, including those having India rubber as a component material, valued at above one dollar and fifty cents per pound, fifty per centum ad valorem; valued at less than one dollar and fifty cents per pound, forty-five per centum ad valorem.

396. On clothing, ready-made, and articles of wearing apparel of every description, made up or manufactured wholly or in part not specially provided for in this act, felt not woven, and not specially provided for in this act, and plushes and other pile fabrics,

(Large type, law of 1894; small type, law of 1890.)

all the foregoing, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals the duty per pound shall be four and one-half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto sixty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 45 per cent. Mills bill rate: 45 per cent.

285. On cloaks, dolmans, jackets, talmas, ulsters, or other outside garments for ladies' and children's apparel, and goods of similar description or used for like purposes, and on knit wearing apparel, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, made up or manufactured wholly or in part, fifty per centum ad valorem.

397. On cloaks, dolmans, jackets, talmas, ulsters, or other outside garments for ladies' and childrens' apparel and goods of similar description, or used for like purposes, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, made up or manufactured wholly or in part, the duty per pound shall be four and one-half times the duty imposed by this act on a pound of unwashed wool of the first class, and in addition thereto sixty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 45 per cent. Mills bill rate: 45 per cent.

286. On webbings, gorings, suspenders, braces, beltings, bindings, braids, galloons, fringes, gimps, cords, cords and tassels, dress trimmings, laces, embroideries, head nets, nettings and veilings, buttons, or barrel buttons, or buttons of other forms, for tassels or ornaments, any of the foregoing which are elastic or non-elastic, made of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, or of which wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals is a component material, fifty per centum ad valorem.

398. On webbings, gorings, suspenders, braces, beltings, bindings, braids, galloons, fringes, gimps, cords, cords and tassels, dress trimmings, laces and embroideries, head nets, buttons, or barrel buttons, or buttons of other forms, for tassels or ornaments, wrought by hand or braided by machinery any of the foregoing which are elastic or non-elastic, made of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, or of which wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, or other animals, is a component material, the duty shall be sixty cents per pound, and in addition thereto sixty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 40 per cent. Mills bill rate: 50 per cent.

287. Aubusson, Axminster, Moquette, and Chenille carpets, figured or plain, carpets woven whole for rooms, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, and oriental, Berlin, and other similar rugs, forty per centum ad valorem.

399. Aubusson, Axminster, Moquette, and Chenille carpets, figured or plain, carpets woven whole for rooms, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, and oriental, Berlin, and other similar rugs, sixty cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 35 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

288. Saxony, Wilton, and Tournay velvet carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, forty per centum ad valorem.

400. Saxony, Wilton, and Tournay velvet carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, sixty cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 35 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

289. Brussels carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, forty per centum ad valorem.

401. Brussels carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, forty-four cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 30 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

290. Velvet and tapestry velvet carpets, figured or plain, printed on the warp or otherwise, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, forty per centum ad valorem.

402. Velvet and tapestry velvet carpets, figured or plain, printed on the warp or otherwise, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, forty cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.

Wilson bill rate: 30 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

(Large type, law of 1894; small type, law of 1890.)

291. Tapestry Brussels carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, printed on the warp or otherwise, forty-two and one-half per centum ad valorem.

403. Tapestry Brussels carpets, figured or plain, and all carpets or carpeting of like character or description, printed on the warp or otherwise, twenty-eight cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.
Wilson bill rate: 30 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

292. Treble ingrain, three-ply, and all chain Venetian carpets, thirty-two and one-half per centum ad valorem.

404. Treble ingrain, three-ply and all chain Venetian carpets, nineteen cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.
Wilson bill rate: 30 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

293. Wool Dutch and two-ply ingrain carpets, thirty per centum ad valorem.

405. Wool Dutch and two-ply ingrain carpets, fourteen cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.
Wilson bill rate: 25 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

294. Druggets and bockings, printed, colored, or otherwise, felt carpeting, figured or plain, thirty per centum ad valorem.

406. Druggets and bockings, printed, colored, or otherwise, twenty-two cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem. Felt carpeting, figured or plain, eleven cents per square yard, and in addition thereto forty per centum ad valorem.
Wilson bill rate: 25 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

295. Carpets and carpeting of wool, flax, or cotton, or composed in part of either, not specially provided for in this Act, thirty per centum ad valorem.

407. Carpets and carpeting of wool, flax or cotton, or composed in part of either, not specially provided for in this act, fifty per centum ad valorem.
Wilson bill rate: 25 per cent. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

296. Mats, rugs for floors, screens, covers, hassocks, bed sides, art squares, and other portions of carpets or carpeting made wholly or in part of wool, and not specially provided for in this Act, shall be subjected to the rate of duty herein imposed on carpets or carpetings of like character or description.

408. Mats, rugs, screens, covers, hassocks, bed sides, art squares, and other portions of carpets or carpeting made wholly or in part of wool, and not specially provided for in this act, shall be subjected to the rate of duty herein imposed on carpets or carpetings of like character or description.
Wilson bill: Same provision. Mills bill rate: 40 per cent.

297. The reduction of the rates of duty herein provided for manufactures of wool shall take effect January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-five.

Wilson bill: December 2, 1894.

THE FREE LIST.

685. All wool of the sheep, hair of the camel, goat, alpaca, and other like animals, and all wool and hair on the skin (1), noils (2), yarn waste (3), card waste (4), burr waste (5), slubbing waste (6), roving waste (7), ring waste (8), and all waste, or rags composed wholly or in part of wool (9), all the foregoing not otherwise herein provided for.

NOTE.—Dutiable under paragraphs 375-390, tariff act of 1890.
Wilson bill rates: (1 to 5) free; (6, 7, and 8) 15 per cent; (9) free.
Mills bill rate: Free.

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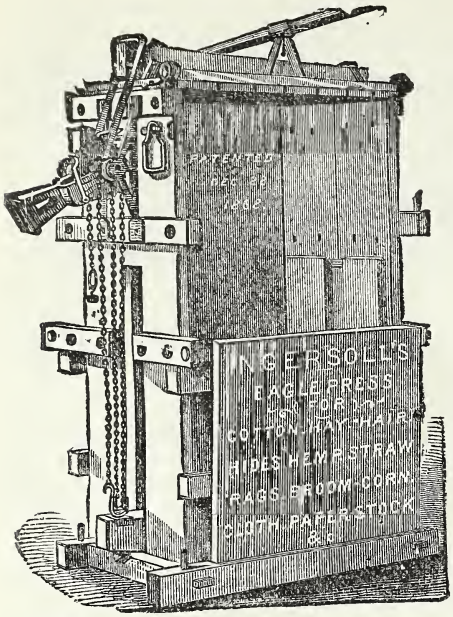

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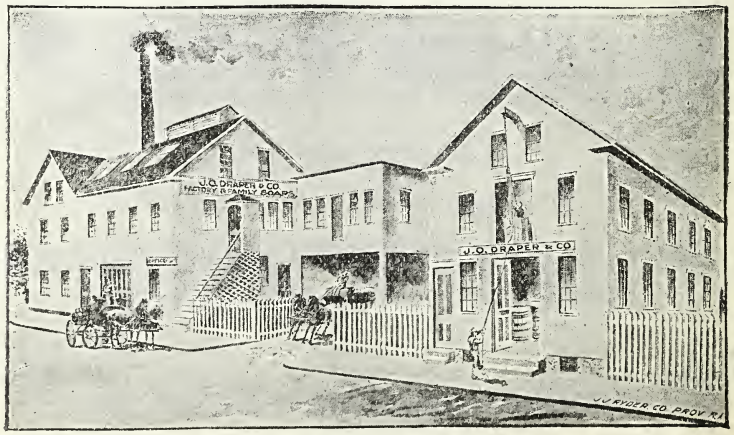

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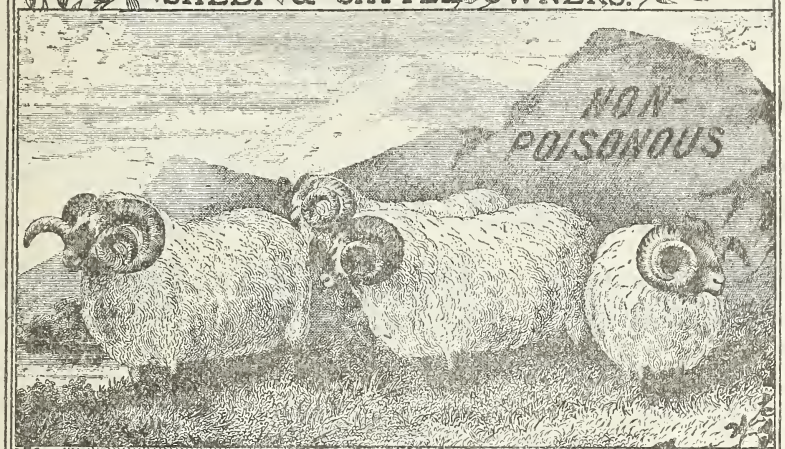

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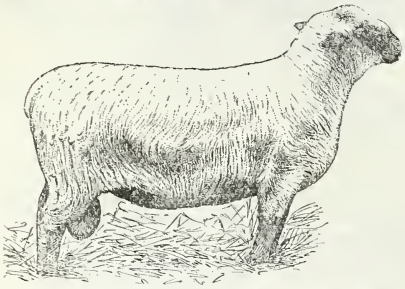

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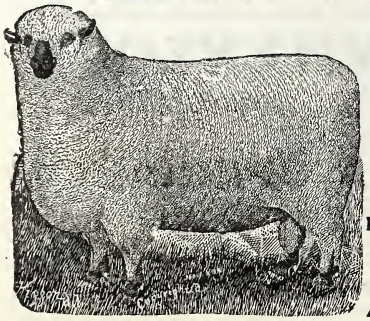

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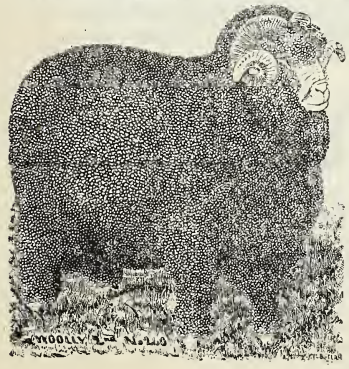

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THE NATIONAL DELAINE MERINO

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Wherever they have gone and whether in large or small flocks, their superiority has been acknowledged. They grow the best wool in the world. A ram fleece from one of the flocks took first premium at the World's Fair for best fleece of Delaine wool. And when they enjoy like favorable conditions for the production of delicious mutton, they are not surpassed in this regard by even the so-called mutton breeds themselves—symmetrical in form, rich in constitutional vigor, and clothed from nose to hoof with long, white, spiral wool and dense enough to produce the ideal fleece. Their ancestry will trace back to the Humphrey importation of 1811. The flocks from which they were selected were established about 1828.

The N. D. Association was established in 1882. These Washington County Delaine sheep produced the first Merino wool that was ever successfully used for combing purposes. It always commands a premium on the market, and will produce as much scoured wool per head as any other breed of sheep. A careful system of registry is kept of every animal, and Vol. 5 of registry is now being prepared for publication. It has the oldest established and printed record of any purely American breed of Merino sheep.

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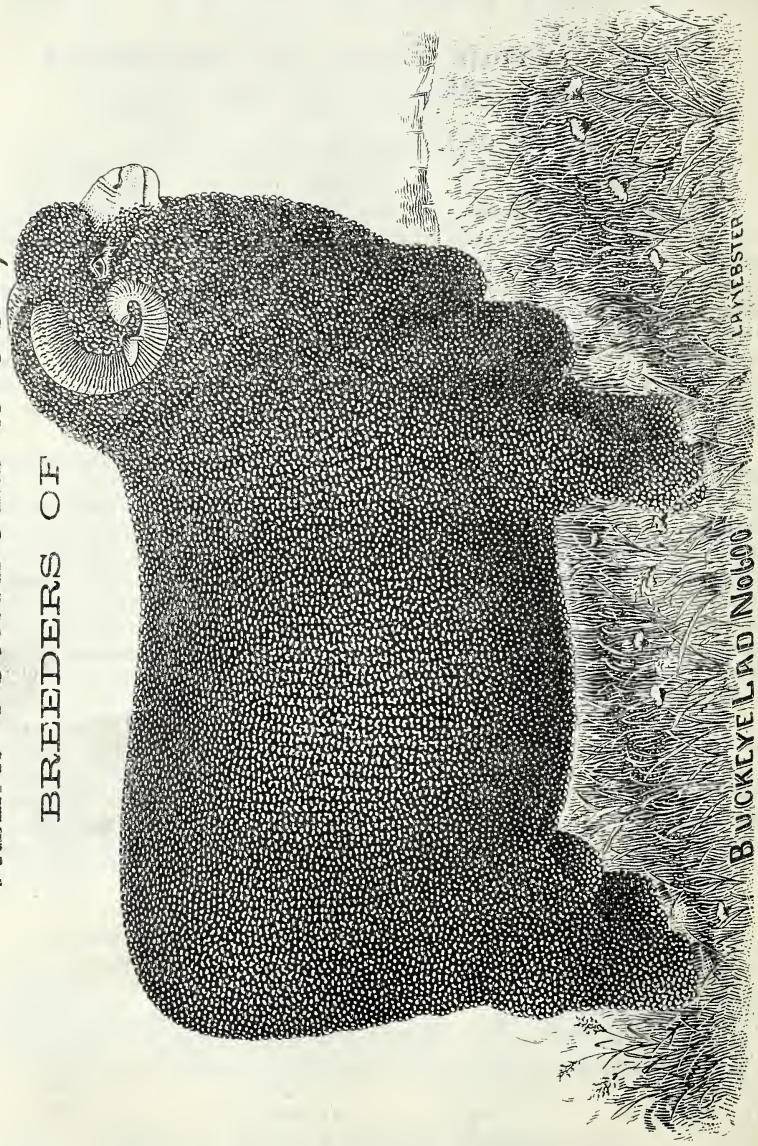

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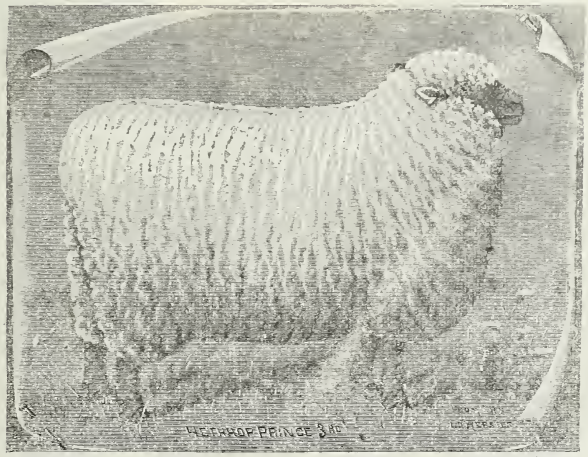
I have won Sweepstakes on Flock bred by exhibitor for two years in succession at OHIO STATE FAIR.

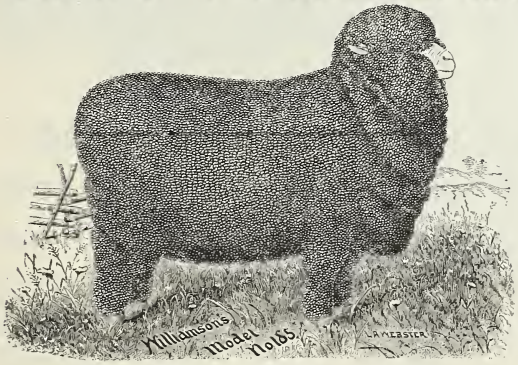


Won Sweepstakes on Ram with 5 of his get at Ohio State Fair in 1894. Also special on pen of 5 Lambs for 3 years in succession at Ohio State Fair.

LORD BICESTER and HETHROP PRINCE 3d.

Winners of First and Second Prizes in Ram Lamb Class at the World's Columbian Exposition, 1893. At Head of Flock owned by

J. C. WILLIAMSON, Xenia, O., Greene Co.



Sweepstakes Delaine Ewe at Ohio State Fair, 1894. Bred and owned by R. D. Williamson, owner of

"Last Chance," Sweepstakes Merino Ram at Ohio and Indiana State Fair, 1894.

"All wool" Sweepstakes Merino Ram with his get at Ohio and Indiana State Fairs, 1894.

The Sweepstakes Delaine Ewe, Three 1st and Three 2d

COLUMBIAN PRIZE WINNERS

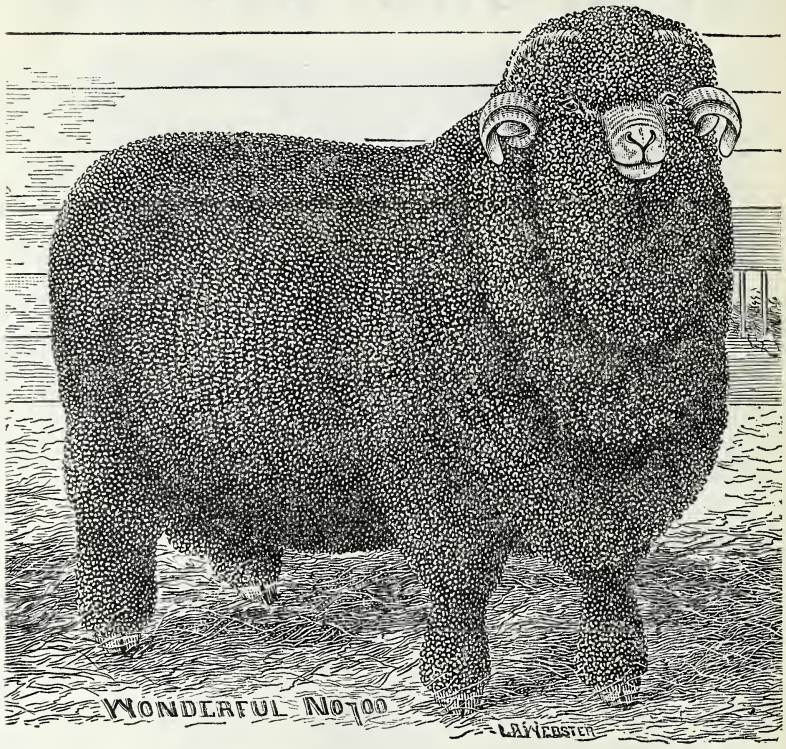
Are in my flock of American and Delaine Merinos. I also breed

POLAND-CHINA HOGS

Of the most fashionable strains.

R. D. WILLIAMSON, GREENE COUNTY, XENIA, OHIO.

THE WONDERFUL SWEEPSTAKES MERINOS.



THE ORIGINAL

National Dickinson Mutton Merino Delaine Stud Flock,

KEPT AT

"PLEASANT VIEW and SPRING HILL PARK,"

FOUR MILES NORTH OF CANTON, O.

H. G. McDOWELL, Proprietor of THE NATIONAL SHEEP FARM.

Our specialties are the development of the species fine wool mutton Merinos to the fullest extent. Original McDowell mutton Merino flock, established 1831. For 26 years have cared for the most celebrated Spanish Merino flock of Ohio, of Ohio Dickinson origin in the flock of my father or as his successor in the business on his entire estate. His flock history is of the truest, best possibly in the world to-day. It has been ascertained that the character and fineness of the best wool grown on the McDowell Dickinson's present flock of mutton Merinos is absolute perfection as by medals won at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893. The type of body construction is the most pronounced, true, economical, eternal type of vitality with feeding and mutton excellence ever witnessed in Merinos, covered properly and perfectly with the best wool God has passed down from the beginning of this world.

These animals, pronounced by the highest expert testimony, to be perfect in wool, character, density, covering, set clearly ahead in size with finish in the ring at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893, having the most beautiful constitutional type, are the proper type for man to raise and propagate extensively. Part of my flock has been bred polled; seems to develop more mutton.

The cut on this page represents the Grand Sweepstakes Champion Delaine ram of his class, first prize as a three year old, first prize in pen of 4, (three ewes and one ram over two years old), also was the sire of first prize pen of 2 rams and three ewes under two years old. Wonderful 700, the unbeaten ram at Chicago. Illustrated catalogues of the World Beaters on application to

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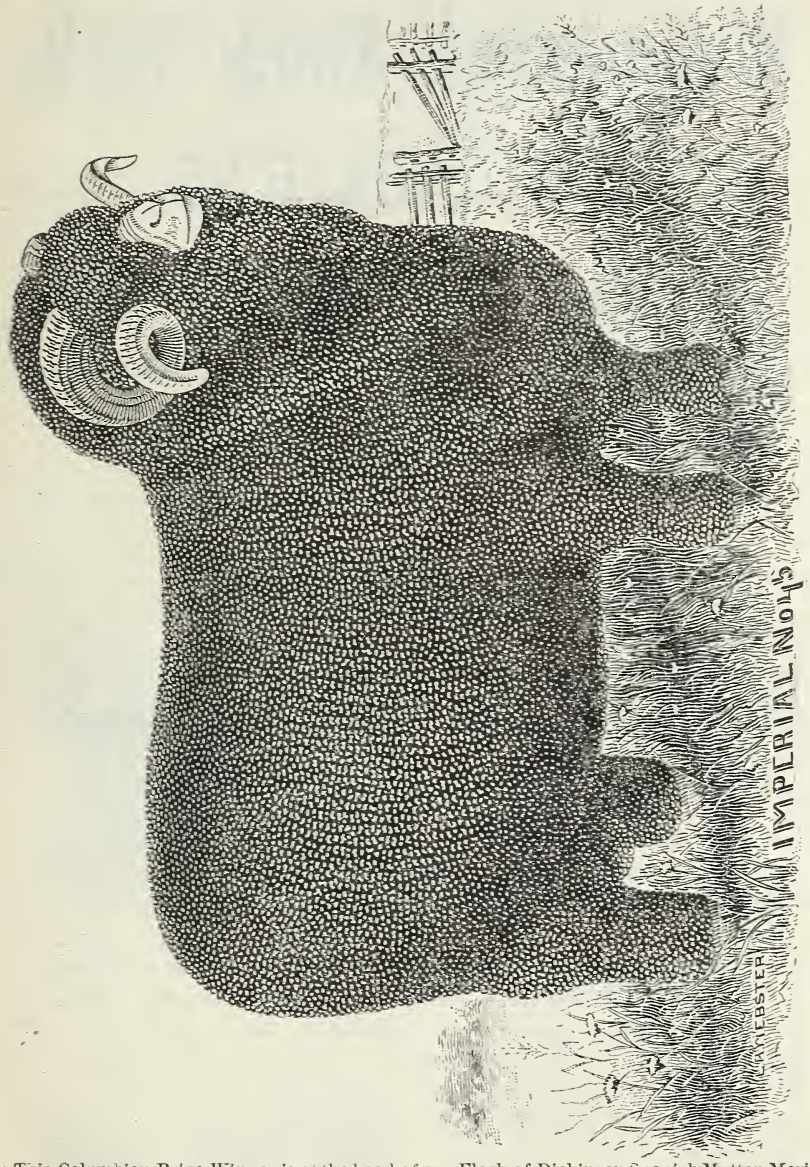
With greeting to the world.



This Columbian Prize Winner is at the head of our Flock of Dickinson Spanish Mutton Merinos. IMPERIAL, which the above cut represents, with his get have taken as many first prizes at leading fairs in the last few years as any ram and his get in America. We have a quality and purity of blood that will stand the test and give best results. Write us. We are making prices to suit these times.

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I am prepared to supply Shropshire Yearling Ewes and Rams, also the same bred the spring of 1894.

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The tremendous fatality in sheep and lambs from worms is not generally known. Worms do not immediately produce symptoms by which the cause may be recognized, the diseased condition progresses slowly. Now and then a death occurs, yet the Shepherd does not often realize that by this time most of the flock is carrying scores of parasites. We have made a specialty of Parasitic Diseases in domestic animals, and if you have a suspicion that any of your sheep or other animals are suffering from worms, write us the facts; our reply will cost you nothing. Send at once for our circulars about diseases of live stock, they are valuable to you. We can give you references to the best breeders in any State in any line. Your interests and ours are mutual.

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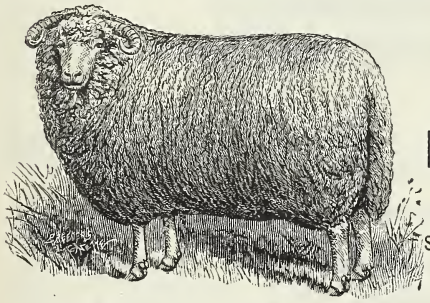

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for sale, season of '95.
This season's (1894)
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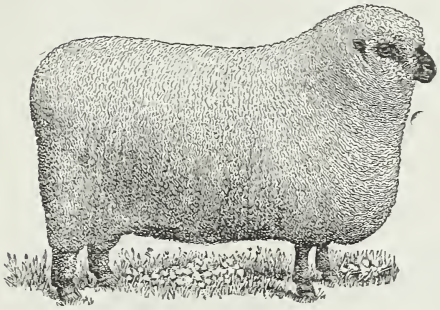

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